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DETAILS LEAKED FROM FALKLANDS COMMITTEE REPORT

PY262203 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 26 Jun 83 p 15

[Text] The Malvinas Committee, which is to release a report on the role of the Armed Forces during last year's South Atlantic conflict in the next few weeks, will attribute serious responsibilities for the strategical, military and political direction of the war to the three former Junta members and to former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, reliable sources disclosed yesterday.

Sharpest criticism will be reserved, however, for General Mario Menendez (the military governor of the islands during the war); Brigadier General Omar Parada (Commander of the Third Infantry); and the then head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Vice Admiral Leopoldo Suarez del Cerro, the sources said.

The so-called "Rattenbach report", a "brief draft" of which was leaked to the NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS (NA) newsagency, will also take Armed Forces government officials to task the psychological action carried out during the war with Britain, and will criticize the economic policies applied during the conflict. [sentence as published] It will be pointed out, however, that it was virtually impossible for the then-Economy Minister Roberto Alemann to take any specific measures to prevent the economic catastrophe that followed, since he was only briefed on the plan to occupy Puerto Argentino by the time Argentine troops were already landing on the islands.

Responsibilities for the direction of the war will be laid on individuals, and not on the services or institutions they represented, it was disclosed. General Leopoldo Galtieri, Admiral Issac Anaya and Air Force Major General Basilio Lami Dozo -- the former commanders of the three services -- will thus be criticized for having taken most decisions on strategic aspects of the war by themselves, without consulting the high commands of each force.

Politically the Junta members failed to analyze objectively the Argentine forces' chances of success and did not take into account Britain's possible reaction to the occupation of the islands nor that of the United States or NATO, the draft reportedly says. These latter mistakes will mainly be attributed to former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, however.

General Mendez is reportedly blamed for concentrating solely on playing the islands' military governor instead of commanding his troops, which is what he had been designated for, the draft said. It also charged that Menendez left it up to one of his subordinates to draw up the main aspects of his battle plans.

Sources also told NA that the six-man committee will produce a lengthy report, the content of which will have to be cleared by the Armed Forces Supreme Council and the three Junta members prior to its release.

REACTION TO FALKLANDS-BOUND UK PLANES IN BRAZIL

Foreign Ministry Refuses Comment

PY272145 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 25 Jun 83 p 9

[Text] The Argentine Foreign Ministry declined yesterday to make any comment on news reports from Porto Alegre according to which British planes en route to the Malvinas are refueling in a Rio Grande do Sul base.

Answering questions, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the Foreign Ministry "does not answer any newspaper reports."

The news report that initiated this matter states that Brigadier General Thales de Almeida Cruz, the commander of the Fifth Brazilian Regional Air Command, had stated that British planes en route to the Malvinas Islands are refueling at the Canoas air base, located in Rio Grande do Sul State. Almeida Cruz added that the operation is carried out with the approval of the Foreign Ministry and of the Brazilian Air Force staff.

Diplomatic Contacts Reported

PY280216 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2241 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 Jun (NA) -- According to reliable sources the Argentine ambassador to Brazil, Hugo Caminos, held a meeting today with the Brazilian Foreign Ministry under secretary to express the Argentine Government's concern over the stop-over of British planes bound to the Malvinas Islands. Moreover, it was also learned that the Brazilian ambassador to Argentina, Carlos Duarte, was at the Argentine Foreign Ministry last Friday, where he was informed about Argentina's concern over the issue.

According to unofficial reports, Brazilian authorities have reportedly informed that the British planes had requested permission to land while in flight. It must be noted that the stop-over of British planes was disclosed about a week ago by the chief of the Fifth Brazilian Regional Air Command who confirmed on Friday that the British planes were refueled at the Canoas air base, located near Porto Alegre. According to General Tales de Almeida Cruz, this operation has been approved by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry and by the Brazilian Air Force staff. According to an ANSA newsagency report, General Tales de Almeida Cruz said that "the procedure would be the same if Argentine planes were in a similar situation."

URUGUAYAN NAVY CHIEF ARRIVES FOR CEREMONY

PY271250 Paris AFP in Spanish 2224 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Jun (AFP) -- Navy Commander in Chief Ruben Franco has met Uruguayan Navy Commander in Chief Rodolfo Invidio at the metropolitan airport. Admiral Invidio arrived from Montevideo to participate in the christening and launching of the corvette "Spiro".

BOMB DEFUSED AT FORMER PROVINCE OFFICIAL'S HOME

PY242207 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1457 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Jun (DYN) -- Reliable sources report that police this morning deactivated a bomb that was left in front of the house of Jaime Smart, former minister of the Buenos Aires Province Government. Around 0900 [1200 GMT], police discovered a bomb in front of Smart's house at 17,882 Libertador Avenue in Beccar; the bomb was deactivated by bomb squad personnel. Smart was minister during the administration of Governor Iberico Saint Jean.

NO RESIGNATIONS FORESEEN OVER POLICE KILLINGS

PY250010 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Jun 83 p 11

[Text] President Reynaldo Bignone rejected yesterday reports that the justice and interior ministers would resign in connection with implications stemming from the Cambiaso-Pereira Rossi case, saying that "there are no changes foreseen" in his cabinet, while Buenos Aires Provincial police chief, General Fernando Verplaetsen said he would not quit his post over the matter either, expressing harsh criticism against those persons that "accuse us of altering the facts" in the case.

The San Nicolas court of appeals yesterday rejected a writ of habeas corpus presented by the defence on behalf of the three police officers held under preventive arrest for their suspected participation in the alleged murders of Osvaldo Cambiaso and Eduardo Pereira Rossi on May 14. In its rejection of the writ of habaes corpus, the court said the jailing of the three policemen (Luis Alberto Patti, Juan Amadeo Spataro, and Rodolfo Dieguez) was legitimate.

In answer to a questionnaire presented by the press over a possible reshuffle in the national cabinet, Bignone yesterday that said he did not foresee any changes. Rumors had it that the justice and interior ministers, Jaime Lennon and Llamil Reston respectively, would be sacked in connection with the Cambiaso case.

In La Plata, Buenos Aires Provincial Police Chief Fernando Verplaetsen denied rumours apparently originating within his own force as to his imminent resignation, stating that Cambiaso and Pereira Rossi "were not the political leaders people pretend they were but two shady agents of death and violence." Verplaetsen also described the three officers held under arrest in San Nicolas as 'the brave young men" who acted "strictly in the line of duty", adding that "our police force seems to be the target of cunning attacks which originate not by mere coincidence in the factories of hatred and revenge, not only against our institution but also against the Argentine people as a whole."

FORMER PRESIDENT VIDELA TESTIFIES IN COURT

PY241540 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Former President Lieutenant General Jorge Rafael Videla yesterday testified for 1 hour before the court answering the charges brought against him by former La Rioja Governor Carlos Menem. Menen has also filed charges against former Interior Minister General Albano Harguindeguy.

ELECTORAL LAW PASSED FOR OCTOBER VOTE 23 JUNE

PY262212 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] The long-awaited electoral law was finally promulgated yesterday. As anticipated, it established the D'Hondt system of proportional representation and a threshhold of three percent of the electorate within any of the 24 electoral districts as an essential precondition before a party is permitted deputies and presidential elections within that district. The electors will subsequently choose the president and vice president. Federal Capital senators will also be indirectly elected.

In contrast to the incomplete list system of the Saenz Pena law, the number of candidates on party lists will correspond to the number of seats available (Article 2). Article 7 stipulates the number of replacement candidates which must be entered on the party list, e.g. three in the case of 4-5 seats or electors, six in the case of 9-10, eight for 11-20 and ten for any larger numbers. These are to replace elected deputies or electors should the latter die, resign or otherwise be incapacitated.

The classical D'Hondt system is to be used, i.e. successive division by consecutive integral numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. The resultant quotients will be listed in size until their number equals the number of seats or posts available. If any quotients are equal, the party with the higher total vote will gain preference. Should these figures also coincide, the order will be decided by lot. The parties will then gain the same number of seats or electors as they have quotients listed.

The law comprises ten articles. The first enumerates the objects of election, the second provides for complete party lists. Article 3 states that no modifications of the party lists by the voter will be taken into consideration. The fourth article specifies the 3 percent threshold. Articles 5 explains the D'Hondt system. The sixth article is a virtual reiteration of Article 1, while Article 7 and 8 deal with the replacement candidates. Article 9 lists the laws repealed in the light of the new legislation (by number, according to Argentine legal practice) and the final

PINOCHET ILL, ACTIVITIES CANCELED FOR 48 HOURS

PY272216 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2124 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 27 Jun (EFE) -- According to an official communique issued by the Presidential Secretariat, Chilean President Augusto Pinochet today canceled all his official activities for 48 hours since he is ill with the flu. The official communique notes that "since he is ill with the flu, the president of the republic, General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, has decided to cancel his official activites for the next 48 hours."

The last official activity that Pinochet carried out today was a meeting he held with the mayors and provincial governors of the entire country during which he informed them about new measures, and about his position in case of any possible future protest activities, which, he said, he will not tolerate.

PRESIDENT ON WILLINGNESS TO HOLD DIALOGUE

PY271521 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Report relayed by Graciela Contreras from Government House]

[Text] Talking to reporters a few minutes ago, president Augusto Pinochet said that, in his opinion, the call for dialogue made by the Church was very good. He also recalled that the government has always been willing to engage in dialogue, unlike other periods in the past when there was no dialogue at all. President Pinochet noted that there is a daily exchange of opinions at the meetings he attends every morning.

Asked his opinion of the idea that there is a new state of mind in all Chilean sectors, the president replied that some things may beco e fashionable.

President Pinochet talked to reporters after presiding over the opening session of the meeting that is being attended by regional intendants and province governors. During the session, which began at 0900 [1300 GMT], both the president and the interior minister delivered speeches. Several ministers are also scheduled to talk at the meeting over the next few days.

Warns Protest Sponsors, Agitators

PY271952 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Report relayed from Government House by Graciela Contreras]

[Excerpt] President Pinochet reiterated today that all existing legal measures will be applied against agitators and against those who call for actions of protest, because the government has thus far tolerated the disruptions that occured on two occasions but it will tolerate no further disorders. President Pinochet made this categorical warning on opening the sixth meeting of regional authorities and governors at Government House at 0900 [1300 GMT] this morning.

The president said that the course for joint action has already been set, that it is now necessary to work harder and that regional officials, governors and mayors must join efforts to carry out this great task which is to be undertaken not only by the president but by all Chileans who love their country and wish to see it achieve its development in peace and progress. The government, President Pinochet added, is very well aware of its accomplishments, but when some people -- no matter how few -- fail to recall the objectives we have met, it becomes necessary to make a comprehensive review of our accomplishments and it is also necessary that the people learn about them.

President Pinochet also said that it was necessary to make known the modernization of the labor plan, the improvement of the job market, the social security system reform and the accomplishments in the educational system, the health sector, the judicial branch, and the agricultural sector, as well as the public sector. For this purpose, the president noted, it is necessary to set up a communications scheme. President Pinochet also said that there are reasons to be optimistic now, because the economic measures that have been enacted are actually promoting reactivation.

[Recorded passage indistinct]

The president added that some people justify the actions of protest claiming that the government is not willing to engage in dialogue. I believe, the president remarked, that never before have contacts between the people and the government been so much encouraged. It was during past governments that there was no dialogue. What the Popular Unity portrayed as dialogue was actually a fruitless monologue. Further on, President Pinochet stressed that, throughout its history, Chile had to cope with different sorts of obstacles. It was precisely under these circumstances that the most glorious pages of our history were written; today we are again facing adversity but we will win the struggle as we did in the past, President Pinochet noted.

[Recorded passage indistinct]

President Pinochet also said that he was convinced that a majority sector supports the task that he has undertaken and that he will continue under whatever circumstances no matter what obstacles must be faced.

FIVE UNION LEADERS SENTENCED TO BANISHMENT

PY280221 Paris AFP in Spanish 1413 GMT 26 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 26 Jun (AFP) -- It was reported here today that two more Chilean union leaders accused of a stoppage of activities in their organizations were banished to distant places in the country. They are Manuel Caro, president of the Restaurant workers Federation; and Valentin Osorio, leader of the Construction Workers Federation, according to a union communique.

The note of the restaurant workers stated that Caro was detained on Tuesday in his house and banished to the distant town of Quemchi, 1,300 km to the south, where he will be held for a period of 3 months. Osorio, however, was detained on Wednesday and his destination is not yet known.

On Friday, the military regime banished to distant places in the country three union leaders involved in demonstrations opposed to the military regime. They are Sergio Troncoso, president of the 60,000 construction workers, and peasant leaders Carlos Opazo and Jose [as received] who were detained a week ago by agents of the secret National Intelligence Center, after the second day of protests staged against the policies of President Augusto Pinochet.

LABOR LEADER SEGUEL INTERVIEWED IN PRISON

PY271848 Paris AFP in Spanish 1235 GMT 27 Jun 83

[By Humberto Zumaran]

[Text] Santiago de Chile, 27 Jun (AFP) -- During an interview granted to the FRANCE PRESSE news agency in the prison, Chilean labor leader Rodolfo Seguel warned today that the Chilean people will protest as many times as deemed necessary because it is their right to do so and because they know how the military regime has influenced their lives. On the other hand, Seguel also said that "the Chilean Catholic Church and Supreme Court President Rafael Retamal have both recognized that it is our legitimate right to protest peacefully as we did."

Seguel, 29, headed the protests staged against the government of General Augusto Pinochet on 11 May and 14 June. During the protests, which were regarded as the most violent outburst in almost 10 years of military government, 6 people died, approximately 20 were injured and 1,350 were detained. Seguel, the president of the powerful Confederation of Copper Workers (CTC) and of the National Workers command (CNT), was detained on 15 June on charges of allegedly breaking the national security law.

The Chilean labor leader, who is also called the Walesa of Chile, said that the two protests were the first reactions of miners in 10 years and that the support implied in those actions was not for Rodolfo Seguel but for the Chilean labor movement.

Seguel told AFP that the 22,000 copper workers have set the course that the labor movement must follow and that unity has strengthened the sector despite repression, despite government attempts to appease the movement, and despite the disinformation campaign. Seguel voiced his concern that the military government was once again "seeking to put down the labor movement with arms and fear. He noted, however, that "our conscience is stronger than the power of force." The labor leader ruled out a dialogue with the government, because not even the most elementary human rights are respected in Chile.

Asked about the idea of creating a multiunion command under the control of truck owners -- who yesterday ended their strike -- Seguel said: "We, as workers command members, are neither employers nor businessmen but plain workers, and doing that would amount to putting the labor movement into the hands of the government. We want democracy. If truck owners also want democracy, we can join them in that aspiration." Seguel, who appeared calm and optimistic during the interview, told AFP: "I lost democracy and freedom when I was 19 years old." He was 19 when the military toppled the leftist government of President Salvador Allende in 1973. I will neither relinquish nor negotiate that freedom and that democracy, because that is precisely what we want now, Seguel stressed. He then said that political parties have slept over the last 10 years and that workers are waking them and doing a great deal of the job that parties should have done. [Words indistinct] major labor sources were annoyed at the strange silence that parties, who claim to represent workers, observed during the two days of national protest. A labor leader of the Chuquicamata mine said ironically that they are waiting the Christian Democratic Party support.

The government imposed a political recess in 1973 and has outlawed the socialist and communist parties and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), which promotes armed struggle against the regime headed by President Pinochet. However, Seguel said he hopes parties will discharge their responsibilities in the best possible way, for the sake of the well-being and democracy of the Chilean people.

The last question Seguel answered was: Imprisoned as you are, what are your feelings toward your nation? He replied: "The same feelings that my imprisoned nation has."

HAVANA REPORTS END OF GENERAL STRIKE 27 JUNE

FL271441 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1350 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] In a decision endorsed by the National Workers Command [CNT], the Taxi and Bus Owners Federation decided to end its strike but reiterated its support for the detained union leaders and the dismissed workers. Leaders of this federation noted that they will reject every repressive action by the regime and that they will stay in touch with the CNT to conduct an in-depth analysis of the recent events and to outline the immediate course of action to follow.

The general strike which began last Thursday has thus ended since the CNT also decided to end the strike.

DEMONSTRATIONS PROMPT UNIVERSITY CLOSURE, VIOLENCE

University Suspends Classes

PY252104 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0321 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 24 Jun (EFE) -- The authorities of the Catholic University of Valpariaso today suspended all academic activities as a result of the incidents which took place in front of this university yesterday. Today the students found out from a sign hung on the gates that classes had been suspended. In view of this, many students gathered outside the university to discuss the measure.

During the first day of the general strike called by the union leaders who oppose the military regime, groups of students clashed with Carabineros and set up roadblocks around the university. The students were later disbanded by the police, who resorted to antiriot equipment. No arrests or injuries were reported as a result of the demonstration that the students organized in view of the suspension of classes decided today.

Student Body Leader Attacked

PY252053 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Text] Persons alien to the Catholic University have attacked Juan Jaime Diaz, president of the students federation. The attack took place during recent incidents at the university campus. Diaz was beaten and kicked around by unknown individuals and students of the Chilean University, according to the report of the Catholic University Student Federation (FEUC). The report added that the above-mentioned students tried to unleash chaos in the Catholic University, which forced the Carabineros to react and throw teargas bombs into the campus. It was also reported that the Catholic University Board is currently meeting to analyze the situation.

UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE TRY TO BURN SCHOOL

PY250354 Santiago Radio Agricultura in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Police are carrying out an intensive search for some unidentified people who .... tried to burn school No 267 located at 111 14 October Street in Maipu neighborhood. The criminals poured gasoline over a classroom and a cellar. However, the school watchman prevented the facilities from catching fire in time.

BOMB BLASTS FAIL TO HINDER SUBWAY SERVICE

PY271241 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Despite two bomb blasts that occurred this morning, the Santiago subway is operating normally. Subway officials report that the first bomb went off between (Pajaritos) and (Las Rejas) stations at 0546 [0946 GMT] and that the second one went off between (Los Celos) and (Etoesca) stations, on line 2, at 0555 [0955 GMT]. The damage caused by the blasts is being evaluated.

CHILEAN EXILES BEGIN 'WORLDWIDE HUNGER STRIKE'

FL271653 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2130 GMT 26 Jun 83

[By Ramiro Ochoa]

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- To reject the ruling military regime and to voice their solidarity with their fellow countrymen, more than 1 million Chilean exiles today simultaneously went on a worldwide hunger strike which will last until next Wednesday. The Chilean exiles, who are represented here by the House of Chile [Casa de Chile], have reported that this coercive measure is designed to endorse the protest actions staged by the Chilean workers against the dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet.

Manuel Rodriguez, deputy director of the House of Chile, has reported that in several communiques issued worldwide the exiles have demanded that the United States put an end to its intervention in their country since they are aware that the Pinochet-led military regime is still in office only because of Washington's support. Rodriguez noted that the Ronald Reagan administration had supported and implemented a "fraudulent constitution" which would allow the dictator to perpetuate himself in office, thus precluding every possibility for a transition toward democracy.

Rodriguez noted that despite the intensified repression conducted by the de facto regime, the Chilean people are determined to demand the return to democracy through strikes and direct actions. In this respect, Rodriguez announced that a simultaneous mobilization will be carried out in the next few days to demand Chile's return to democracy.

Speaking to a group of Chilean exiles in Rome, Italian President Alessandro Pertini today expressed "his fraternal and unconditional solidarity" with the Chilean people's struggle against the dictatorship of Gen Pinochet. Pertini openly reiterated his condemnation of a regime like that of Pinochet who, he said, "has suppressed every form of freedom."

Radomiro Tomic, leader of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and former presidential candidate in Chile, stated today in Caracas, Venezuela, that the economic policy of the school of Chicago has been frenziedly applied in his country since measures which are not in keeping with the Chilean reality have been adopted there. Among the results of the mistaken economic measures adopted in Chile, Tomic mentioned the complete privatization of the economy and the government's subsidiary role in a free market, which led to increased foreign debt and unemployment.

Tomic stated that the present economic crisis can be overcome through the return to a democratic, pluralist, diversified system which, he said, will inevitably bring about different opinions as to what should be done in the country, but which will agree as to using means other than coercive measures. The PDC leader is in Caracas where he will be attending the congress on "The Present Latin American Political Thinking," which wi'l open tonight with the attendance of nearly 200 Latin American, U.S. and European intellectuals.

BRIEFS

NEW S.ANISH AMBASSADOR -- During a ceremony held today at Government House, President Pinochet received the credentials of the new Spanish ambassador to Chile, Miguel Solano. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jun 83 PY]

ISRAEL APPROVES ENVOY -- The Israeli Government has approved the designation of Major General Nilo Floody Buxton as Chilean ambassador to Israel. The Foreign Ministry has announced that the major general is due to travel to Israel soon to present his credentials. Floody Buxton is replacing Santiago Benadava, Chile's ambassador in Rome who has been assigned to mediate on the Beagle Channel issue. [Excerpts] [Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 17 Jun 83 p 14 PY]

GOVERNMENT FAVORS NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS FOR C.A.

PA251441 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez said today that the government favors a negotiated political solution for the Central American crisis. Valencia Rodriguez was approached by reporters before entering a meeting that he held, behind closed doors, with members of the National Congress.

He emphasized that the root of the Central American problem is socioeconomic inequality. Military intervention would only aggravate the conflict, he said; therefore, Ecuador believes that the Central American peoples must seek solutions for their own problems.

[Begin recording] [Valencia Rodriguez] We feel that the next meeting of presidents on the occasion of [words indistinct] Ecuador will be a great opportunity for Andean Group presidents to strengthen the mechanisms for subregional integration. In addition, they can discuss problems that still exist among the countries and seek solutions for them.

[Unidentified reporter] Thus, the reason for the meeting would be to strengthen the Andean Pact; but how about problems such as those of Central America?

[Valencia Rodriguez] Of course, there are problems that affect not only the countries of the region but those of the continent. One of these problems is that which you referred to: the Central American issue. On this matter, the Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry has been very clear in stating that the origin of these problems lies in the serious socioeconomic inequalities experienced in those countries. Therefore, if we want to find a final solution to these problems we must attack the causes. In addition, Ecuador has categorically stated that intervention in that region must be stopped. The military, diplomatic, or any other kind of intervention must cease so that the countries affected by these problems can find a negotiated political solution. We oppose any kind (?of intervention in Central America).

[Reporter] A Nicaraguan delegation recently visited our capital, and (?we understand they met with you). What is the Ecuadorean position regarding Nicaragua, which in one way or another is at the center of the Central American problem?

[Valencia Rodriguez] Ecuador has the best of diplomatic relations with all the Central American nations. Regarding Nicaragua, the situation is the same. We have said that we advocate full respect for Nicaraguan sovereignty. We believe that all countries, big and small, deserve to be respected in their basic principles: sovereignty, territorial integrity and the right to develop without any intervention. [end recording]

LABOR MINISTER SUBMITS 'IRREVOCABLE' RESIGNATION

PY271852 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1703 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Lima, 27 Jun (EFE0 -- It seems that the unexpected resignation submitted by Peruvian Labor Minister Alfonso Grados and the rejection by Industry Minister Gonzalo de la Puente of the present economic policy might cause a ministerial crisis. Neither of the two ministers belongs to "Popular Action," the government party. However, on reporting Grados' resignation, Senator and former Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa said that Grados had resigned because he will run as a candidate for the Lima mayorship at the municipal elections to be held in November. For his part, Grados has made no statements since he submitted his irrevocable resignation last Friday.

HAVANA REPORTS ON STRIKES BY MINERS, PROFESSORS

PA241517 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] The National Federation of Mine and Metallurgical Workers of Peru has postponed until Monday the indefinite general strike that had been originally scheduled to begin this past Wednesday in support of the workers' demands at the (Capa Acari), (Aguila), and (Canaria) mines. According to several union leaders, the strike was postponed because of the ban on assemblies at the mines due to the state of emergency that currently prevails in the country.

Meanwhile, the 23-day-old strike being staged by Peruvian university professors continues. They are demanding larger budgets for higher education and the approval of a democratic and popular university law.

WORKERS DEMAND RELEASE OF CHILEAN PRISONERS

PA260412 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jun 83

[Text] The National Federation of Mine and Metallurgical Workers of Peru has demanded the immediate release of Rodolfo Seguel and Hugo Esquivales, president and vice president of the Chilean Confederation of Copper Workers.

In a telegram addressed to the chief of the Chilean regime, the Peruvian organization also requests the unconditional release of all the prisoners in Chile and express solidarity with the fair demands of the Chilean people.

BRIEFS

HEAVY OIL DISCOVERY -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry has announced the discovery of 2 trillion barrels of heavy oil -- proven reserves -- in the San Jacinto area, Loreto Department, on the boundaries of sections 1A and 1B of the oil concession granted to the U.S. firm Occidental, where there are already 21 wells producing both light and heavy oils. The discovery of a new technology that will enable recovery of the heavy oils would generate enough earnings to settle Peru's foreign debt. This foreign debt presently amounts to approximately $12 billion. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1929 GMT 19 Jun 83 PY]

REPRESENTATIVE TO CONTADORA CLAIMS ADVANCES

FL271600 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico, 25 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- In spite of the fact that the Central American conflict is becoming worse each day, the Contadora Group has achieved substantial advances toward the pacification of the area, relying on actions in accordance with circumstances, said Under Secretary of Foreign Relations Ricardo Valero. In statements to the national press, Mexico's representative to the Contadora Technical Group said that at the recent meeting in Panama, the bases for regional disarmament were established.

He specified that the Contadora Group does not want to place blame, but rather, after identifying the problem, find a way to create the conditions for peace that the areas needs so badly. He added that the foreign ministers of the group -- Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Mexico -- agree on the necessity of strengthening democratic institutions so that based on them, political processes that now have other characteristics can be developed and guided. He said that the peace negotiations between the foreign ministers now encompass a broader view of the conflict, which will permit advances at subsequent meetings.

HAVANA CITES FESTIVAL OF SOLIDARITY WITH C.A.

[Text] Hundreds of persons met in front of the Mexico City Monument to the Heroic Children [Hemiciclo a los Ninos Heroes] in a popular festival of solidarity with the struggles of the Central American peoples. The festival was organized by the Mexican committees for solidarity with El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Vietnam and by the Mexican-Cuban Cultural Relations Institute. Seven groups from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua and from the (Vinol) Theater of Cuba performed for over 4 hours. The performers took advantage of the media coverage to denounce the brutal repression practiced against the people by U.S.-supported governments. In the specific case of Nicaragua, they denounced the aggression being perpetrated against that country by the United States through the bands of former Somozist guardsmen and the Honduran Army.

GROUPS EXPRESS DISSATISFACTION WITH POLICIES

FL272140 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0220 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican trade union and university groups today expressed dissatisfaction with the Mexican Government's agreement with the IMF to cut government spending, the policy of austerity, and the limits on wages. This was stressed during the first National Labor Assembly arranged by the National Front for Defense of Salaries and Against Austerity and the High Cost of Living (FNDSCAC) and the National Committee for Defending the Popular Economy (CNDEP), which represent 32 organizations.

During the meeting, legislator and member of the FNDSCAC Ivan Garcia Solis asserted that Mexico is not for sale and that national enterprises should not be undersold to foreign capital, which "only exploits the people and natural resources without providing any benefits." He said he disagreed that Mexico should pay its foreign debt or that the bankers be compensated.

Hugo Aboites, secretary general of the Independent Trade Union of Workers of the Metropolitan Autonomous University (SITUAM), said the country's universities will continue on strike until authorities meet the wage increase demands. He said there would be a national march next week to demand the 40 percent wage increase and a stop to the policy of austerity.

COSTA RICA

MONGE DENIES POLITICAL ASYLUM TO PASTORA GROUP

PA280116 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2143 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] San Jose, 27 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge telephoned from Miami today to order that neither Eden Pastora nor his men be granted political asylum if they decide to return to Costa Rica.

Monge justified his decision by citing his government's political commitment to absolute neutrality. In warlike conflicts of other countries, "our neutrality must be above all doubt."

From the humanitarian viewpoint, the government tells those Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) members who seek refuge on Costa Rican territory that it will "make efforts with countries that do not border Nicaragua to see if Pastora and his men may be received as political exiles."

President Monge explained, however, that "these efforts will be undertaken only if the Costa Rican Government is requested to do so, in which case it will permit the use of its territory as a humanitarian bridge for these unarmed men to leave for the country that grants them political asylum."

The Costa Rican president is in Miami following a 1-week tour of the Netherlands, Norway, and Great Britain.

A few hours before returning to Costa Rica, Monge insisted that this country, which of its own will proscribed its army in 1948 and still remains unarmed, limit its participation in other states' warlike problems "to humanitarian, mediating, and peace-making efforts."

"I will never permit us to be dragged into the avalanche of violence, destruction, and death that is bleeding fraternal countries."

In President Monge's telephone conversation with his office in this capital, he announced that he was insistently questioned in Oslo by newsmen, politicians, and Norwegian Government members about Eden Pastora's withdrawal from the southern front in Nicaragua. "I did not state an opinion on the issue. I limited myself, as now, to announcing the decision not to grant political asylum to any of the combatants in neighboring countries' warlike conflicts," the president explained.

OFFICIALS ON BORDER SITUATION, REFUGEES

PA261323 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 20 Jun 83 p 4

[Text] Since the eight observers of the Contadora Group visited our country along with their assistants, there have been no more incidents on the border with Nicaragua, members of the National Security Council have said. This makes it clear that the observers have produced a sort of detente between Costa Rica and Nicaragua; therefore, their visit to the border, as suggested by President Luis Alberto Monge, was highly beneficial.

Second Vice President Armando Arauz Aguilar, National Security Council coordinator, told LA PRENSA LIBRE that the National Security Council has no new reports of incidents on the border.

"From some sectors of the border the authorities report shootouts and clashes on the other side of the border, inside Nicaraguan territory, but only in a very sporadic way," Arauz Aguilar reported.

Prior to the visit of the Contadora Group observers, border problems were frequent due to violations of Costa Rican territory by the Sandinist People's Army, and due to Nicaraguan Government complaints that anti-Sandinist expeditions were leaving from Costa Rica to cause problems to the Sandinist regime.

Since the visit by the observers, the region has been calm. "This justifies Costa Rica's efforts to have the Contadora Group establish permanent observers, or at least make periodic visits to the border," Arauz Aguilar pointed out.

Arauz Aguilar added that some analysts maintain that the meetings of the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican mixed commission have also contributed to easing tensions.

Among the positive developments since the visit of the observers and the work of the mixed commission, Arauz Aguilar mentioned a decrease in attacks against the Costa Rican Government and against President Monge by the Nicaraguan news media.

"It was evident that the tone used by the official Nicaraguan press against Costa Rica was very hard and even disrespectful, to the point of insulting President Monge himself in an exaggerated editorial in EL NUEVO DIARIO. However, this paper has lowered the tone of its publications."

Vice President Arauz Aguilar also reported that in one of its recent sessions the National Security Council reviewed the refugee problem.

The flow of immigrants from the other Central American nations, particularly El Salvador and Nicaragua, has slowed down despite the fact that the National Commission for Refugees (CONAPARE) had already prepared an emergency plan because it expected the refugee flow to be very heavy these days. This, however, has not happened.

According to Arauz Aguilar, "prior to the outbreak of hostilities in Nicaragua most of the immigrants were Salvadoran."

The vice president said that there are 15,000 Salvadoran refugees in the country, but that the influx of refugees from that country has been completely interrupted. "This development demonstrates that the flow of refugees took place through Nicaraguan territory. When the fighting started in that country, the flow was completely interrupted."

EL SALVADOR

U.S. EMBASSY REPORTED TARGET OF BAZOOKA FIRE

PA280339 Paris AFP in Spanish 0325 GMT 28 Jun 83

[Text] San Salvador, 27 Jun (AFP) -- The U.S. Embassy in El Salvador, located in the downtown sector of the northwestern part of this capital, was the object tonight of an attack with bazooka fire, although initial unofficial reports do not give an account of dead or wounded. According to accounts from neighbors of the embassy, the attack took place at a distance of 300 meters from the building that houses the diplomatic mission.

Some eight military checkpoints, which control [words indistinct] vehicle, permanently surround the embassy, which is why the attackers must have fired the bazooka from a considerable distance, it was noted. Salvadoran Red Cross sources said that they did not know if the attack claimed any lives, although they disclosed that an ambulance had been sent to the site.

No Casualties From Attack

PA280525 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0508 GMT 28 Jun 83

[Text] We will now rebroadcast information about the latest events in the capital. Here is Raul Beltran with the news: [Begin Beltran recording] We will now give a detailed report on the news that Tony Alvarenga broadcast early this evening, after the U.S. Embassy was the target of an attack.

The information was supplied to this news service by a high-level spokesman from the diplomatic mission, with whom we talked at about 2100 in front of the U.S. Embassy. For special reasons, he asked us to refrain from mentioning his name. He confirmed that in the space of about 10 minutes, the U.S. Embassy was the target of two [as heard] attacks. The high-level spokesman said that the first attack came from a vehicle and involved short-range weapons. Afterward, a small bomb was detonated near the U.S. Embassy, near the circle at the end of 25th North Avenue.

After the explosion, unidentified persons arrived in a pickup and opened fire on the embassy's installations. According to the U.S. Embassy spokesman, Red Cross members and the legal center [not further identified], plus the witnesses near the embassy at the time of the attack, there were no casualties. It was also confirmed that the security men at the U.S. Embassy could not open fire on the attackers because there were many civilians near the premises, mainly students from a private university near the U.S. Embassy.

The high-level spokesman confirmed, I repeat, that in the space of 10 minutes the U.S. Embassy was subjected to three attacks. Two of these were directed at the building that houses the U.S. diplomatic delegation. We could also confirm that as the high-level spokesman said tonight, several shots hit the AID director's office. It was confirmed that no one was wounded in this attack.

Some 200 policemen, patrol cars and troops from the San Carlos Garrison were deployed to the U.S. Embassy and established a 1-km cordon around the installation, while policemen searched the vicinity in an attempt to locate the attackers.

It was also reported that early tomorrow morning, the U.S. Embassy and its security personnel will initiate an investigation, questioning the U.S. and Salvadoran troops who maintain watch around the embassy, to establish how the attack was perpetrated at approximately 1930 tonight.

FMLN Credited With Attack

PA280423 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0331 GMT 28 Jun 83

[Text] San Salvador -- The U.S. Embassy in El Salvador was declared a military target of the FMLN tonight, according to a last minute dispatch. The embassy was hit with bazooka and rifle fire. There were no reports on wounded, dead or damage.

ARMY REPORTS LAS GUARAS OPERATION UNDERWAY

PA272211 San Salvador DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 27 Jun 83 p 52

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, has reported that Army units are in control of the road from San Martin to Suchitoto and that an operation to rid nearby areas of the terrorists who took positions on the bridge at Las Guaras, after damaging it, is in progress.

Meanwhile, vehicle traffic across the bridge has been restored, but with some restrictions, in that vehicles may cross but may not carry any extra weight. Thus, passengers must get out and walk. Peasants who live nearby said that several vehicles from Suchitoto crossed the bridge yesterday morning. The drivers indicated that there was no problem. Meanwhile, the residents of nearby cantons continue to abandon their homes in fear of further terrorist attacks like that which took place last Friday.

New Lenca Battalion Sworn In

PA272215 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1500 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Press communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador, on 26 June 1983 -- ready by announcer]

[Text] Some 360 members of the newly-created Lenca Battalion were sworn in on Saturday morning, in the small settlement of San Simon, in northern Morazen Department.

Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Adalberto Cruz, chief of the Commando Instruction Center in San Francisco Gotera, attended the ceremony. People living in neighboring cantons, who have been constantly threatened by the rebels' attacks, which have been repelled by the civil defense units in every community, also attended.

People living in the canton of Las Quebradas, a kilometer from San Simon, told our correspondent that they stayed in hiding for days because the subversives tried to take away their young sons, with no pity or concern for suffering. They also expressed their gratitude for the food being distributed by the Armed Forces, of which they were in dire need.

After the swearing-in ceremony, the members of the newly-created Lenca Battalion rturned to their combat posts.

FMLN UNITS REPORTEDLY CROSS INTO HONDURAS

PA252226 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Communique No. 2 issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA; date or place not given -- recorded]

[Text] The FMLN is making incursions into Honduran territory. FMLN terrorists have turned up in the Honduran towns of El Transito and Santa Teresa to recruit youths, loot stores, and distribute propaganda. Community leaders of the Salvadoran border towns of Nuevo Eden de San Juan and San Luis de la Reina, who regularly travel to Honduras, reported that the Salvadoran terrorists' frequent incursions into Honduras are frightening the people of the zone.

The community leaders also reported that FMLN members stay in the refugee camps in Honduras for a few days, and then leave to resume their criminal activities.

Meanwhile, international news agencies reported that the Honduran town of Las Mercedes was attacked by terrorists, who wounded an 11-year-old boy.

Obviously, in its desperate retreat to escape the offensive of the Salvadoran Armed Forces, the FMLN has been entering the neighboring country and unnecessarily trying to involve a sister country in our conflict.

COMMISSION SAYS 650 PEOPLE ACCEPT AMNESTY LAW

PA271240 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] According to a report by the Salvadoran Amnesty Commission, chaired by Monsignor Freddy Delgado and lawyers Quirio Waldo Salgado and Dr Ernesto Arbizu Mata, 650 people have accepted the amnesty, which will expire on 16 July. On 26 June, the law will have been in effect exactly 40 days. It is expected that another 100 members of the groups up in arms against the government or from the population will accept the amnesty. This estimate is based on the figures available and on the results of the first 40 days of the law's implementation.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Clash in La Libertad

PA270452 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] We have a report from the Feliciano Ama Western Front, in La Libertad Department: On 19 June, guerrilla units carried out an attack to harass the combined post, consisting by civil defense members soldiers and troops from the artillery garrison, at the settlement of (Siempreviva), in the canton of El Castillo, the jurisdiction of San Juan Opico, La Libertad Department. Our forces harassed this post for an hour and caused them 15 casualties. This garrison contained 30 men, who were charged with constantly repressing the people in the area.

We regret the death of two combatants, Companeros Marcos and Leonel, in this action. Our forces are present in La Libertad Department in the development of our "In the Face of Reagan's Aggression, El Salvador Will Win" military campaign. This report was sent from our Feliciano Ama Western Front by Commander Oscar Guevara.

Tribunal for Castillo Trial

PA280300 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 28 Jun 83

[Communique issued by the FMLN's Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front general command in Morazan, El Salvador on 27 June, 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] The general command of the FMLN's Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front reports that:

1. Today, Monday, 27 June, we have appointed the revolutionary military tribunal that will be in charge of the trial of Colonel Francisco Adolfo Castillo. This tribunal is composed of five political and military leaders from the northeastern front.

2. The trial of Colonel Francisco Adolfo Castillo did not begin today. We call upon our people to remain alert for a later communique, in which we will report the start of the trial and its developments.

3. Colonel Francisco Adolfo Castillo was a member of the Armed Forces high command from late 1979; this is the dictatorship's organization that is responsible for unaccountable repressive actions and that is an accomplice in plans to increase the intervention in our homeland. Revolution or death, we shall win! [dated] Morazan, 27 June 1983.

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI REPORTS FMLN ACTIONS

San Miguel Towns Occupied

PA241557 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Attention, Salvadoran people. We have achieved a new victory in the northern part of San Miguel Department. Much attention. Yesterday, 22 June, our brave popular militias took over the towns of San Luis de la Reina and San Antonio de las Moscas, in the northern part of the eastern Department of San Miguel. We seized more weapons from the oppressors' puppet troops on the eastern front. Attention. We recovered 32 rifles from the enemy. We also recovered an M-79 grenade launcher, a PRC-7, military communications radio, and more than 12,400 cartridges from a large group of Civil Defense guards in these towns.

According to preliminary reports, 26 Civil Defense paramilitary agents were taken prisoner during the clashes. They were immediately released after our brave militias gained total control of the towns.

Blackout in Chalatenango

PA241658 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Our Peoples Liberation Militias, MPL, have left the El Paraiso garrison and the city of Chalatenango without electricity. In an audacious sabotage action on Monday, 21 June, our heroic MPL in Chalatenango blew up electricity poles on the road from Chalatenango to El Paraiso, causing a blackout. The explosion, which occurred near the (EL Comano) turnoff, stopped traffic on the road and left El Praiso garrison, San Rafael, (Reubicaciones), and the puppets' hideout in Chalatenango with out power. Our militiamen withdrew without any problem. The pertinent war report was signed by Companero Efrain.

Sabotage Attacks

PA241952 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] This morning we blew up Las Guaras bridge over the Sucio River in Cuscatlan Department. Our control over the road from [name indistinct] to Suchitoto grows stronger with this new victory.

Within the framework of our "In the face of Reagan's Aggression, El Salvador will Win," political-military campaign, we have carried out [word indistinct] attack on the National Guard position guarding Las Guaras Bridge over the Sucio River, blowing up the bridge and interrupting traffic on the new road at kms 30 and 31.

The enemy fled in disarray from our attack. As a result of this new victory in Cuscatlan Department we have dynamited [words indistinct], and we have also recovered the following war materiel: 5 G-3 rifles, 3 [word indistinct] rifles, 3 M-1 carbines, and more than 5,000 rounds of 7.62-mm and 4-mm [as heard] ammunition, as well as other war supplies.

This war report is signed by Commanders Claudio Vasquez and Ricardo Gutierrez, who also report that on 22 June our militia units sabotaged electricity poles at kms 36 and 37 on the Main Northern Road, leaving Chalatenango Department and San Salvador's northern sector without power.

Action in San Vicente

PA271238 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Report by Alejandra Gomez, war correspondent in the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] In view of the death and destruction accompanying the so-called welfare campaign for San Vicente promoted by the regime, on 9 June our people decided to organize themselves and to fight in the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front.

During the past few days, from 20 to 25 June, the people of the northern, central, and eastern zones of San Vicente have been the target of the constant bombing and strafing by the dictatorship's air force. A 10-year-old boy was cut in half trying to take cover during a 22 June air raid on San Pedro Hill.

The people from San Bartolo, El Achote, El Amado, La Laguna, Amatitan, San Jacinto, and nearby communities are complaining that their belongings are constantly destroyed. Area peasants have reported that there are military road blocks where they are stopped and most of the supplies they buy in town are taken from them. The heroic people of San Vicente have responded to the fascist regime's unpopular and repressive action by strengthening their military units.

At 2200 on 21 June members of our people's army launched a surprise attack on an enemy post in San Felipe, at km 73 of the Pan-American Highway. Our companeros killed 2 enemy and wounded 10 during the clash which lasted over 15 minutes.

In rejecting and denouncing the regime's terror campaign, the communities in this war front have been conducting political-cultural acts. On 24 June, more than 180 children of northern San Vicente Department staged a political-cultural event. They formed six committees of the Salvadoran Children Movement. This ceremony culminated a series of political activities.

New 'Victory,' Details

PA271400 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 27 Jun 83

[War bulletin issued by Commander Ricardo Gutierrez, member of the Joint Command of the FMLN Central Front; no date or place given -- read by announcer]

[Text] Attention, Salvadoran people, pay close attention: Here are Farabundo's weapons. We have just (?dealt a blow to), annihilated, and seized the weapons of an entire enemy company in Guazapa, in the area located between Las Guaras bridge and Tenancingo.

A total of 60 weapons were seized, 30 prisoners of war were taken, and over 80 casualties were inflicted on the genocidal enemy when it was most confident about the offensive it launched after the Las Guaras bridge was blown up and after we gained control of the new road in Suchitoto, San Martin. Our herioc vanguard units have just foiled the offensive, lowering the morale of the puppets' entire genocidal machinery in our Modesto Ramirez Central Front.

The fighting continues; new victories [words indistinct] [2 minute break in transmission] Jose Guayabal, as well as 120-mm and 81-mm mortars emplaced in other positions. This offensive has met with the strong resistance of the FMLN people's army.

Withing this framework, today, 26 June 1983, vanguard units of the FMLN people's armed forces inflicted a serious defeat on the puppet army, dismembering one of its companies as it advanced with the support of three other companies, aswell as units of the National Guard and the Treasury Police. They were moving from south to north, toward Tenancingo and the cantons of San Francisco and (El Perico).

Our vanguard detachments managed to disrupt their advance and then maneuvered to both annihilate and deal a blow to one of the companies. The results were as follows: The recovery for our people of a 90-mm cannon; 70 rifles, most of them M-16's and a few G-3's; and 78 grenade launcher; a PRC-77 radio; ammunition; and other war supplies. In addition, 30 prisoners of war were taken. Of these, we released 14 who were wounded. The other 16 will be released in the next few days, in accordance eith our just policy characterized by respect for and good treatment of the soldiers who surrender. [Words indistinct] more about this fighting [words indistinct].

Our unstoppable struggle advances. To defeat, annihilate, and seize is our motto. United to fight until the final victory. Revolution or death, we will win.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT WARNING AGAINST COUP ATTEMPTS

PA271930 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1905 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Guatemala City, 27 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan Government warned this morning against a possible coup, indicating that in such an event, it would be "bloody," according to an official note issued early this afternoon by the presidency.

The communique warns against the "grave consequences that the promotion and staging of a coup" by the political rightwing "would have for the country." According to government spokesman Gonzalo Asturias, "if the rightwing staged a coup, new political weapons would be given to the subversives and they would take advantage of the occasion to renew their military attacks."

After warning also against the effect of a possible coup on the so-called "political opening," Asturias said that it would be foiled "because the extremists have never approved of it."

"The rightwing," the spokesman added, "would resume its fraudulent actions of the past, and the country's economy could no longer endure an even worse crisis and the looting of the national treasury."

According to General Rios Montt's government, the extreme left would also take advantage of the coup and "those who have accepted the amnesty might rejoin the subversive movement."

The government spokesman noted that the regime has been able to verify that political sectors "interested in returning to the vices of the past," have approached some Army officers "to advice them about an alleged need for a coup."

The Rios Montt government believes that if some political sectors who have support among some military sectors try to seize power, the result would "necessarily be bloody."

The official note concludes by stating: "The government urges all Guatemalans to think carefully and not to go off a cliff with a coup that would open the door to other coups that would exhaust the country politically, economically, and socially."

However, in an effort to encourage calm, Gonzalo Asturias, the government spokesman, said: "Nothing serious will happen, but we have an obligation to alert the Guatemalan people."

Another official spokesman, Rafael Escobar Arguello, said that this afternoon's announcement by the government is aimed at alerting the people that individuals "with no conscience" are behind a possible coup d'etat. These official comments on the coup come when rumors about such an attmept have been continuous for days in political and economic centers of Guatemala.

RIOS MONTT ON COUNTRY'S CONSTITUTIONALITY

PA271512 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Weekly address to the nation by Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt, place not given -- broadcast in progress, live or recorded]

[Excerpt] The Supreme electoral court will be installed this week. This is a firm step toward the return to the state's constitutionality. I am very interested in having Guatemala and the world know that the only objective of this government is to lay the groundwork for the parties to work for the people's welfare and the nation's security.

We will soon decide on a timetable for this. We are holding talks with secretaries of the political parties' committees. I want to remind you that it is the duty of the political parties and is also your responsibility to choose the best government. You have sole responsibility for what happens or what does not happen in this nation because we are living in a democracy.

Let's not be frightened by certain speculation and rumors. In the world of fear in which we live, this is normal. Security is in you hands and you have to determine the Guatemalan situation. The best way to determine the Guatemalan situation is by fearing God and by keeping His commandments. Thank you.

MEXICO EL DIA: GOVERNMENT BANS FOREIGN ARTISTS

FL280100 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1940 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 24 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The Guatemelan Government has prohibited the entry into the country of Mexican, Puerto Rican, U.S., Ecuadoran, Salvadoran, and Panamanian artists, according to the EL DIA newspaper here.

Amet Flores, correspondent of the liberal-leaning newspaper, said the Efrain Rios Montt administration will impose fines of from 1,000 to 50,000 quetzales and jail terms ranging from 3 days to 3 months against artists who violate the ban.

The newspaper said that the Rios Montt administration told the National Trade Union of Guatemalan Artists and Actors in a letter that in cases where contracts with foreign artists had to be complied with, they should work only in the predetermined places and complete 60 percent of their contracts. It reiterated that artists who enter Guatemala would be fined "because they are personae non gratae." According to EL DIA, the letter asserted that with the banning of foreign artists it would prevent them "from continuing to take out foreign exchange" needed by the country.

MANGUA, HAVANA REPORT EGP CLASHES WITH ARMY

Managua Cites Communique

PA241750 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Guatemala -- In a war report, the Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army, EGP, has claimed that several military operations in the Huehuetenango and Ixtan areas, which too, place between 11 and 25 May, have caused 50 confirmed casualties to the Guatemalan Army. The war report pointed out that these guerrilla units, which belong to the URNG, have dealt heavy blows to Rios Montt's army. As a result of these confrontations and harassment activities, the guerrillas have recovered weapons and ammunition of various calibers.

Havana Gives EGP Report

FL241229 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1135 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] The Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] has inflicted 158 casualties on Guatemalan Government forces during 3 months of operations in the western part of the country.

In a war report released in San Jose, Costa Rica, the EGP outlines the actions carried out by the rebels during January, February and March in the Departments of Huehuetenango and Quiche, and notes that 78 operations were carreid out during this period.

One of the major operations was a 2-hour battle waged with paramilitary forces in the Agua Zarca township, where the enemy sustained 6 dead, including 1 officer, and 10 wounded. The EGP adds that most of these actions took place during repressive raids carried out by government troops against civilians.

HONDURAS

MINISTRY PROTESTS SANDINIST ATTACK ON BUS

PA250420 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2325 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Foreign Secretariat lodged a protest with the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry today because of a new attack on a civilian vehicle with an antitank grenade launched from Nicaraguan territory.

The Honduran protest note stated that the incident ocurred in a place known as El Pital, on the road between Las Trojes and Cifuentes, along the border with Nicaragua. It was stated that on 23 June the vehicle, a bus carrying five passengers, was hit by an antitank grenade which seriously damaged the rear differential. No passengers were injured.

A bus was machinegunned in El Pital last week. According to Honduran reports, this attack resulted in three wounded. The attack also came from Sandinist Army positions in Nicaragua.

On Tuesday, U.S. reporters Richard Cross and Dial Torgerson were killed on this same road, in the Quebrada de la Vigia sector.

In its protest note, the Honduran Foreign Secretariat stated that "this incident is a new Sandinist attack on the country's soveriegnty and territorial integrity." The note warned the Nicaraguan Government to "be cautious and remain calm so as not to provoke a response from the Honduran Army which has so far remained aloof from the Nicaraguans' war conflict."

GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES REPORTED IN REFUGEE CAMPS

PA240545 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Jun 83 p 11

[Text] San Marcos de Ocotepeque -- Residents in this border zone are extremely alarmed by the increased number of robberies and rapes committed in the past few days by guerrilla groups from El Salvador. According to the residents, many of the subversives have been seen in the refugee camps of Mesa Grande. This might mean that they are receiving protection from the social organizations that operate there.

The residents reported that the Honduran Army cannot carry out a strict vigilance in the refugee camp area because there are more than 10,000 refugees from the neighboring country. The people added that, after the electricity is cut off around midnight, people are heard going about, and it is believed that fully armed guerrillas patrol the streets. Neighbors from the towns of Santa Teresa and El Transito reported that the guerrillas came around to recruit youths and loot clinics, possibly to take care of their wounded comrades.

In this regard, another person said that Crescencio Fernandez, Maria Carmen Aubanell, and her sister Mercedes are considered the main suspects of covering the guerrillas. They also mentioneda Canadian woman surnamed Christian and U.S. citizen Scott Wright, whose immediate chief is Ana Lidia Franch, who worked in Palestine for many years. The people report that these individuals distribute Marxist literature to the refugees.

ARMY SENDS REINFORCEMENTS TO PROTECT BORDER

PA252306 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1840 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Report by Jose Danilo Isaguirre]

[Excerpts] Our fellow compatriots living on the border with Nicaragua, between Los Trojes and Cifuentes, are experiencing constant anxiety because of Sandinist aggressions. The Sandinists continue firing on any person or vehicle on the road. In view of these circumstances, six commando units of the 6th Infantry Battalion were deployed to the area yesterday to protect the residents, despite the fact that many have had to abandon their homes.

These people have had to use the mountain roads to get out of the area because it is practically impossible to use the main road.

Area residents have said that for the past few days the Sandinists have been firing grenades and shells at Honduran territory to the extent that several persons have been wounded or killed, as was the case of the two U.S. newsmen who were not aware of the situation in the area. They were killed by the Sandinists who are constantly firing on any object they spot.

The Honduran commandos who are stationed on Honduran territory to prevent the aggressors from achieving their purposes, have been deployed along several kilometers of the border reinforcing the containment forces who, for the past few days, have been at a place known as Hoja de Guineo, a few kilometers from Cifuentes. It is an area where no traffic is allowed, to prevent any tragedy that the aggressors might provoke.

Local and foreign reporters were also in Hoja de Guineo trying to learn the real situation which has been described as dangerous by area residents, as well as by officers and soldiers. In Hoja de Guineo, before leaving for Cifuentes, Colonel Cesar Elvir Sierra, chief of public relations for the Honduran Armed Forces, said: [Begin recording in progress] [Elvir Sierra] ...the area. But I follow the orders issued by the commander of this area because the region is his responsibility, not mine. Therefore, I suggest that we go to Cifuentes and get the information from the commander who is there. [Words indistinct] [end recording]

Lieutenant Jose Alfredo Torres, officer in charge of the containment forces in Hoja de Guineo, said that our territory has such forces to prevent foot traffic on the Los Trojes -- Cifuentes road and to make sure that no vehicles travel the road. Lieutenant Torres explained the situation being experienced in that area:

[Begin recording] [Torres] Those positions over there are Sandinist positions. From there and down there are [words indistinct]. [end recording]

We asked Lieutenant Torres from where they fired into Honduran territory, and he told us that they are posted on the hills and mountains that run along the side of the road on the border between Honduras and Nicaragua, and it is from these posts where they fire, without risk, on the objects they spot travelling the road. He added that some mines had been located on the road. The Sandinists had placed these objects.

[Begin recording] [Torres] Yesterday six mines were located on our territory. They are: the area of Campana Hill and [words indistinct] to this point. Other mines were also found near the customs post. We don't know the specific location of the mines but we know they are there.

[Question] How did you detect the mines?

[Torres] Here is the reporter who found them. [end recording]

Torres said the reporter who entered the area by crossing the mountains had found the mines and made a rough map of their location.

The officer added that yesterday morning the Nicaraguans started firing heavily, and that a light plane violated our airspace. [Begin recording] [Torres] About 30 minutes ago a light plane, flew over Los Trojes and all this sector toward Los Trojes.

[Question] Lieutenant, do you have orders to repel attacks?

[Torres] Any attack on our territory. [end recording]

PRESIDENT STATES RESOLVE TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY

PA251451 Paris AFP in Spanish 2118 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 24 Jun (AFP) -- Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova today announced that he is willing "to take up arms to defend the country's sovereignty," and that if necessary he will shed his last drop of blood "in the defense of freedom, justice, and democracy."

In an impromptu interview in the halls of the Presidential Palace, the president said that he felt deeply strengthened by the support that the Honduran people are giving to his government and the Armed Forces "at a time when the homeland is being threatened by Nicaragua."

Suazo Cordova was referring to the support his government received this week during his meetings with labor, peasant, professional, political, business, and religious leaders to tell them about the situation on the border with Nicaragua.

Suazo Cordova noted that "despite the latest provocations of the Sandinists," the Honduran Government is willing to talk in order to solve the problems, and he recalled that on 15 July the Central American foreign ministers will attend a new meeting with their Contadora Group counterparts in order to continue discussions.

He added that although Hondurans love peace, "all of them, from the president to the most humble citizen, are willing to take up arms to defend our sovereignty and territorial integrity, and to shed their last drop of blood in defense of freedom, justice, and democracy in our country."

FOREIGN SECRETARY ON TALKS WITH SOCIAL SECTORS

PA241903 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Yesterday, the Honduran Presidential Office secretary [Carlos Roberto Flores] and the Honduran foreign secretary [Edgardo Paz Barnica] addressed a number of foreign correspondents. The foreign secretary said: We cannot approve of a military solution. In turn, the presidential office secretary told the foreign correspondents: Nicaragua is provoking us. They want to create a regional upheaval. Here are the Honduran officials' statements to the foreign correspondents:

[Begin Paz Barnica recording, with sentence-by-sentence translation into English] In the democratic government of President Suazo Cordova, there is a determination to work toward a peaceful solution of the Central American situation.

We have met with various sectors of Honduran society. This morning we met with the political parties, all of which support the Honduran Government's peace policy. They support a peaceful solution of the Central American problems. For that reason, we cannot agree on a military solution, which might be disastrous for our peoples. As U.S. newsmen, you can contribute to a peaceful solution of the Central American situation through your country's government.[end recording]

[Begin Flores Facusse recording] Honduras will do everything in its power to maintain a peaceful stance. We have not responded to any of the Sandinist regime's aggressions because we know that they want to push us into a trap, to provoke us so that we will answer their fire and fall into the trap of war that suits only their interests.

We have said that Nicaragua -- the Sandinist military government that rules Nicaragua -- thinks the solution to their big domestic problems lie an expansion of the conflict by blaming third countries [words indistinct].

Regarding this, they intend to resolve their domestic problem by creating a regional situation of a larger scope. Honduras will not fall into that trap. We will do all that is possible to avoid reaching that extreme.

We vigorously condemn the brutal murder of the foreign newsmen by the Sandinist government as a new provocation against Honduras. We regret these deaths because this is a new aggression on human life by the Sandinist regime. However, we will try to remain peaceful, and we will, in accordance with our peaceful stance, be extremely careful so as not to respond to Nicaragua's military aggressions and so as not to fall into the trap that Nicaragua is preparing for us.

They want to attack Honduras. They want a confrontation in order to internationalize a conflict that is basically an internal struggle in Nicaragua. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

FOREIGN MINISTRY CHARGES HONDURAN INCURSIONS

PA280152 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0103 GMT 28 Jun 83

[Communique issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Managua on 27 June]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry reports to the national and international public that since Friday, 24 June, special Honduran Army forces known as the Special Tactical Group [Agrupacion Tactica Especial -- ATE] and Somozist mercenaries have entered Nicaraguan territory on several occasions in an open and provocative violation of our nation's sovereignty, in order to deactivate several minefields in Nicaragua's defensive line in the Teotecacinte area.

In view of the continued and increasingly dangerous attacks on and invasions against the Nicaraguan population and territory, the Nicaraguan Armed Forces have adopted several defensive measures to curb, as much as possible, an escalation of the attacks on Nicaragua. These measures include the mining of the areas most affected by the attacks from the Honduran Army and Somozist mercenaries.

To weaken this defense line, the so-called ATE and its Somozist allies have been carrying out these actions, using sophisticated techniques that include the use of trained dogs, many of which have died in the minefields.

Despite the gravity of these actions, and because it is aware that the enemies of peace are waiting for a pretext to launch an open war on Nicaragua, the Nicaraguan Government has instructed the patriotic forces that are defending the nation's northern border not to fall into traps or provocations, and warns the international community and the Nicaraguan people about the gravity and consequences of these actions.

DEFENSE OFFICIAL WARNS U.S. NOT TO INVADE

FL271410 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] The Sandinist vice minister of defense, Commander Joaquin Cuadra, issued a call in Managua to the Nicaraguan people to be prepared to defeat a direct military intervention by the United States. The Sandinist leader spoke to members of the militia, who completed a 30 km march as part of their combat training.

If the United States invades Nicaragua, said Commander Cuadra, it will face an entire people, organized and armed, which will inflict a great defeat upon it. Thousands of militia members participated in the march, which covered the distance from Managua and Masaya.

BORGE PREDICTS ARMED ATTACK BY U.S, HONDURAS

PA271942 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Terrible and painful hours are approaching for Nicaragua, but our people have solemnly promised the peoples of the world, and especially to those of Latin America, to champion glory, sacrifice, and victory. These were the words of Revolutionary Commander Tomas Borge Martinez, on pointing out that Nicaragua will be the stage for a most bloody drama sponsored by the Reagan administration in complicity with the Honduran Government. Let's listen to the Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge, on "the Extra Newscast:"

[Begin recording] A comedy is being prepared to justify the staging of the drama; to justify an aggressive war against Nicaragua. The nature of this provocation, of this comedy will probably be known to us very soon, and I hope that the comedy in all its details will become well known before the effects of its having been carried out are felt. All of this is perfectly coherent with the U.S. President Reagan's [word indistinct] biological, and political behavior, [words indistinct] in the great world theater, capable of staging the entire work.

We do not know, I repeat, what the scenes of each act will be. We do not know how many tears, how much sweat and effort, the waste of the biology and [word indistinct], the price that we will have to pay. We only know that our people's heroism will not be a closeup [in English] but a repetition of successive and infinite images. We know that when the curtain falls, the people will applaud their own victory and the victory of the neighboring Latin American peoples.

We know that El Salvador will win. We know that Honduras will win over the fools, traitors, and dreamers who have sold the sovereignty of their countries, of those [words indistinct] do not know the multiplication tables and who above all do not know the meaning of virtue and decency. We know that the peoples of Latin America will win, breaking the chains that imperialism has invented to dominate our people into a thousand pieces on the backbone of the Andes mountain range in the uneven terrain of Chile.

We know that Nicaragua will be victorious in this historical confrontation, and if we have to pay a price -- the price of our blood -- when the curtain falls, all of humankind will know how to evaluate our sacrifice, the sacrifice of a great people which has made a small country defend its view of the Latin American revolution.

Nicaragua, brothers of Latin America and brothers of the United States, will triumph. Nicaragua, Latin American brothers and brothers in the United States, will triumph, even if its (?victory) is filled with the salt of our tears and is tinted with our blood.

Brothers, terrible and glorious hours approach. Our people have made a solemn promise to our brother of the world, and especially to those of Latin America, to be worthy protagonists of glory, sacrifice and victory. Free fatherland. [crowd replies: "or death!"] [end recording]

Havana Reports Borge Claim

FL272040 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1817 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan interior minister, Commander Tomas Borge Martinez, has charged that there is evidence of a preparation under way in Honduras for a spectacular provocation against his country. They are preparing, he said, for a comedy to justify staging the drama; in other words, a war against Nicaragua totally in step with the visceral-ideological conduct of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

In closing the second meeting of Latin American and Caribbean theater groups in the city of Grenada, Borge said the details of each act are not known, but it is known that when the curtain closes the people will applaud their own victory and the victories of fraternal peoples. Borge, who is also member of the FSLN National Directorate, said there were terrible but glorious times ahead for the Nicaraguan people, who will be worthy of both the sacrifice and the victory.

COMMANDER BORGE SAYS REBELS 'NEUTRALIZED'

PA242312 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jun 83

["Excerpt" of Havana Radio Reloj interview with Commander Tomas Borge by unidentified reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Borge] The counterrevolutionary armed forces have been smashed. This means that the blows our army has dealt them along the two borders and in all border areas where there have been counterrevolutionary attacks have neutralized and seriously damaged them to the extent that most counterrevolutionary leaders have, at this point, left the country, and some have been killed.

[Question indistinct]
[Borge] Outside Nicaragua.
[Question indistinct]

[Borge] Yes. That is to say, all those who were in Nicaragua, at the border, have entered Honduras. Some have been killed; some have gone to hell; I mean, if hell does indeed exist, I very much doubt they have gone to heaven. And others have gone into Honduras. This does not mean counterrevolutionary activity has ended. They are reorganizing their forces. Their combat morale has been seriously damaged. Some deserted recently, after they killed 18 guards. Yesterday I learned that...
[changes thought] rather, I learned that yesterday some more had defected. I do not have all the details yet, but there have been new desertions -- in the South, where counterrevolutionary actions have been hit the hardest, as well as in northern Zelaya, where counterrevolutionary casualties are very high. This limits their activities a great deal.

In sum, there have been a number of events and circumstances that indicate that counterrevolutionary activity has been defeated. Of course, this should not cause us to have false expectations. They could reorganize their forces, although I think the chances of the counterrevolution, as such, are finished. This is a new element that increases the danger of an imperialist aggression. Now that this plan has failed and its chances have been dashed -- and imperialism had entertained hopes about the possibilities of this plan -- the imperialists might make even harsher decisions regarding our country.

BORGE CITES REBELS' MEETING IN COSTA RICA

PA272053 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge has described a statement by traitor Eden Pastora on an alleged cease-fire by counterrevolutionaries operating from Costa Rica as base blackmail and a cowardly act.

On the subject of a recent meeting of counterrevolutionaries in Costa Rica, with the consent of the Costa Rican Government, Borge said: [Begin recording] I wonder how the Costa Rican authorities would like it if their opposition leaders were to meet in Nicaragua.

We think that the counterrevolution has no alternative but terror and violence. As a result, to endorse any meeting of counterrevolutionaries is to endorse terror and violence, even if this is refuted with a bunch of words. [end recording]

More on Borge Statements

PA272123 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] In an interview given the Mexican newspaper EL DIA, Commander Tomas Borge, Nicaraguan interior minister, has said: We will do whatever is necessary to defend our country. He added that aggression against Nicaragua will not change the political process that has been launched, and categorically rejected reports that his country is a threat to the United States. Borge stressed that Nicaragua is a small and poor country and declared that only the example of its revolution can be preceived as a threat to the power that the Reagan administration is so desperately seeking.

Commander Tomas Borge said in conclusion that the Contadora Group's initiatives offer hope of resolving Central America's problems and pointed out that the group could be strengthened by the inclusion of other countries.

OPPOSITION LEADER SAYS FIGHTING WILL 'SOON RESUME'

PA272303 Paris AFP in Spanish 2039 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] San Jose, 27 Jun (AFP) -- The guerrillas of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) led by Eden Pastora will soon resume combat in southern Nicaragua, Alfonso Robelo, the political leader of that organization, has announced here.

"We have not withdrawn from a single position and we will resume the struggle very soon," Robelo declared in a statement to the newspaper LA NACION of this capital.

Robelo said that following the cease-fire ordered by Pastora because of serious logistical problems, "good responses" have been forthcoming from Nicaraguans and Latin Americans who helped Commander Cero in his former struggle against Somoza.

The opposition leader said that "the people in Nicaragua are rebelling" and that if Pastora's guerrillas had had enough economic support, "the war would have been won quickly."

The ARDE leader admitted that his organization trusts that it will obtain U.S. support in the future. He warned, however, that there are political pressures in the U.S. Congress, in addition to budgetary considerations, that pose obstacles.

Robelo announced that soon, after the fighting resumes, Commander Pastora will visit various Latin American and European countries in search of support for his democratic guerrillas.

CHAMORRO REPORTS HONDURAN 'PROVOCATION' TO UN

PA251512 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] United Nations -- Nicaragua spoke before the UN Security Council today to report a new provocation against the revolutionary government. This provocation concerned the death of two U.S. reporters in Honduran territory.

Javier Chamorro, Nicaraguan representative to the United Nations, stated that this action is aimed at giving more pretexts to the Reagan administration to carry out a military attack on Nicaragua.

Chamorro revealed to the United Nations the hasty and ill-intentioned actions of the Honduran Government, which announced the death of three journalists when one of them was in Miami. This shows the fictitious and ill-intentioned nature of this obscure scheme.

DANIEL ORTEGA COMMENTS ON WEEKLY PROGRAM

PA251654 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0130 GMT 25 Jun 83

["Face the People" program with Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the government junta; Carlos Tunnerman, education minister; Otoniel Arguello, minister-director of the Nicaraguan Water and Sewage Institute; Deputy Commander Alvaro Cuzman, second in charge of the National Sandinist Police; Miguel Ernesto Vigil, housing minister; Samuel Santos, minister of the Managua Reconstruction Board; Emilio Rappaccioli, minister-director of the Nicaraguan Energy Institute; Marne Serrano, deputy minister-director of the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services; Ivan Tercero, deputy health minister; Julio Lopez, demestic trade deputy minister; Porfirio Gomez, executive director of the National Development Bank; Marcelo Lacayo, of the National Development Bank; Mario Salinas and Rodolfo Palma representing the Transportation Ministry; Leonel Castro representing the Social Security Institute; and Dulce Maria Guillen and Alvaro Duarte representing the regional FSLN committee; in Managua with the residents of the San Jose de la Canada and Monte Tabor localities -- live]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] We are holding this "Face the People" program, and we are trying to hold these weekly meetings regularly with the people, despite certain complications.

This is because in the "Face the People" programs, a number of problems emerge that might seem to be secondary and unimportant in the face of the big problem that the Central American region is experiencing and in the face of the big problem of real threats from the U.S. Government's policy against Central America and against Nicaragua in particular.

We can say that so far the U.S. attempts to provoke the internal destabilization of our country have been limited, thanks to the Nicaraguan people's decision firmly to defend the revolution.

It is interesting to note that since last night, news reports have indicated that traitor Eden Pastora has decided to suspend military actions against the Nicaraguan people for the time being. A Washington-datelined AFP report stated: On failing in his attempts to obtain a financing of between $200,000 and $300,000 a month from the United States, anti-Sandinist leader Eden Pastora yesterday, Thursday, declared a unilateral cease-fire in the armed struggle that he began against Managua 3 months ago, the WASHINGTON POST reported today. The decision was made after a radio-telephone conversation between Pastora in his camp in Nicaragua -- [words indistinct] he is not in Nicaragua -- and Alfonso Robelo, the political director of his organization, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, in Washington. Robelo arrived in Washington last week to discuss with Richard Stone, President Reagan's ambassador at large to Central America, the subject of U.S. aid to ARDE. ARDE requested from the United States between $200,000 and $300,000 a month for its forces.

Here we really see the effects of the defeats that Pastora's counterrevolutionary force has been suffering in the Rio San Juan region. We are also seeing evidence of Eden Pastora's traitorous and sell-out attitude. He is begging the United States to increase the money it has given him to attack the Nicaraguan people. Therefore, we see here evidence of an attitude that is the same as that of the Somozist guardsmen. Both the Somozist guardsmen and traitor Eden Pastora receive aid to ARDE. ARDE requested from the United States between $200,000 and $300,000 a month for its forces.

Here we really see the effects of the defeats that Pastora's counterrevolutioanry force has been suffering in the Rio San Juan region. We are also seeing evidence of Eden Pastora's traitorous and sell-out attitude. He is begging the United States to increase the money it has given him to attack the Nicaraguan people. Therefore, we see here evidence of an attitude that is the same as that of the Somozist guardsmen. Both the Somozist guardsmen and traitor Eden Pastora receive U.S. money. The only difference is that Pastora is demanding more money now. Both traitor Pastora and the Somozist guardsmen have received weapons from the United States. But, as we have previously said, both traitor Pastora and Somozist guardsmen have been defeated, and they will continue to be defeated by the Nicaraguan people in any future attempts they want to make. However, this obviously will not restore peace and calm to Nicaragua. We know that the U.S. Government's attitude is more serious than the danger that the Somozist guardsmen and traitor Pastora could represent. The United States is a power, a military and economic power. It maintains an attitude of attacking Nicaragua.

Yesterday we read that President Reagan is gathering some congressmen who are identified with his policy to try and see how they can confront the other U.S. congressmen who oppose President Reagan's Central American policy.

In the last few days we have also seen the unfortunate deaths of two U.S. journalists in Honduran territory. It happens that they were two U.S. newsmen who had been objective in their reports. One of them was very identified with the Nicaraguan revolution. They were in Honduran territory investigating the Honduran Army and the U.S. involvement with the activity of the Somozist guardsmen. They are the ones who were killed. The Honduran Government then calmly wants to blame us for the death of those newsmen, and President Reagan also wants to blame us for the death of those reporters. It has been well pointed out that if someone is responsible for the death of the newsmen it is not those who fired against them -- whether they be the Hondurans or the Somozist guardsmen; the main one responsible is the U.S. Government that has come to destabalize the Central American region.

It has brought war to the Central American region. It has brought tension to that Honduran-Nicaraguan border area. That is where we find the real causes for the death of these newsmen. We believe that the U.S. Government lacks ethics when its expresses condolences to the newsmen's families. It is the one responsible. Why were the newsmen in that area? Because there is a war situation created by the United States. Why were the newsmen in that area? Because it is well known that the attacks come from Honduran territory; because it is well known that the U.S. Government has admited that it is supplying weapons and money to the Somozist guardsmen. The Honduran Army's open complicity with the counterrevolutionary activity is well known. The newsmen went there because there is zone of conflict created by U.S. policy. That is why we say that the U.S. Government is responsible for the death of those newsmen. It is responsible for the grief that the Central American peoples are suffering. The U.S. Government maintains a policy of aggression, of trying to solve all the problems through the military path.

Those same news dispatches that report that some congressmen are identified with President Reagan's policy and are concerned about facing a strong sector in the U.S. Congress that opposes President Reagan's policy also indicated that U.S. journalists and intellectuals condemn that policy. Of course, this annoys President Reagan and the people who think like him. That is why it is not surprising that many intellectuals visit Nicaragua. That is why it is not surprising that tonight we have with us on this "Face the People" program a group of U.S. intellectuals. We also have here representatives of a solidarity group from Santo Domingo, the Domician Republic, and Brazilian companeros from Curitiba. They are councilmen from that city.

Therefore, we can say that in the face of this difficult situation we are experiencing, we have permanent international support, and above all we have great support from U.S. journalists and intellectuals.

Going back to the subject of the newsmen, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry pointed out that a short time ago when we visited Jalapa we were accompanied by some U.S. journalists of the editorial board of TIME, and the WASHINGTON POST, some Netherlands and French journalists -- quite a large number of reporters. When the journalists were on their way to catch a plane in Hacienda La Milla, which is a few kilometers from Jalapa, they were ambushed by Somozist guardsmen who had come from Honduran territory. Why didn't any of these U.S. newsmen suffer a single scratch? Why weren't any of these journalists wounded or killed? Because our armed forces, although very young, since they emerged after the revolutionary victory, took the elemental precaution of sending ahead a vanguard force, since they knew it was a dangerous zone. They placed companeros of the Pablo Ubeda forces at the front of the convoy. The U.S. journalists were in the middle, and after them came soldiers protecting them. Therefore, when the almost 1-hour attack with mortar and rifle fire occurred, the journalists were protected. Two combatants of the Pablo Ubeda troops were killed. They died defending the newsmen. We ask ourselves, how is it possible that the Honduran Army, which is an old army that is supposed to be very professional and experienced, told newsmen to move about in a zone that the Hondurans describe as dangerous? How could it tell them: Go ahead, there aren't any problems here; or, there is danger, but you go ahead. In other words, it calmly told the journalists to go there without any kind of protection. Why didn't they take the elementary precaution of sending ahead a Honduran Army patrol to protect the newsmen in case of any possibility, since they were entering a zone that the Hondurans have described as a war zone? Why? Because this is a road that runs parallel to the Nicaraguan border. It is a road that links two Honduran towns called Los Trojes and Cifuentes.

It is a road that the Hondurans practically built to facilitate the movement of the Somozist counterrevolutionaries so they can easily transport their weapons, wounded, and dead, and so that the Honduran Army can also move about. In that area, some distance within Honduran territory, the Hondurans have positioned their mortars, artillery, and cannons, and from there they fire on Sandinist soldiers and the civilian population in Nicaragua. This is particularly the case regarding Teotecacinte and El Porvenir, which are places that are very near, practically on the border. When the fighting takes place on the borderline, the mortar and artillery fire from Honduran territory comes from behind this road. Therefore, we do not doubt that some of the Honduran artillery fire could have hit that road. But we ask ourselves, how could a professional army like the Honduran Army tell the newsmen: Go ahead; its dangerous, but you can pass. They did not give the newsmen any protection, and now they are blaming Nicaragua. The United States is the main one responsible for the death of those newsmen, just as it is responsible for the death of the 4-year-old girl who was killed in Teotecacinte by a mortar round from Honduran territory a few days ago. It is responsible for the more than 500 dead in Nicaragua. That is the reality.

[Carcia] My name is Moises Garcia. I am propaganda secretary of the Sandinist Defense Committee [CDS] in San Jose de la Canada. My questions are: What are the resolutions of the Contadora Group in the face of the latest events underway against our country? What are the national and international repercussions in relation to the presence of the Green Berets and other U.S. spies in Honduran territory? [applause]

[Ramirez Mercado] Referring to your questions, I want to say that Nicaragua is engaged in a peace effort. The critical situation explained by Commander Daniel Ortega involves not only Nicaragua, but also the entire Central American area. The risk of a war between Honduras and Nicaragua, which seems imminent, since the U.S. aggressive policy appears to lead to such a confrontation, would certainly involve the Central American region. In view of this serious menace, Nicaraguan efforts have been aimed at the search for peace; that is why within the so-called Contadora Group made up by Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, and Mexico we have insisted on the need to discuss, before anything else, the aggression our country is enduring from Honduras, through bilateral talks with the Honduran Government. This does not mean that we are not willing to discuss with other Central American countries any matter of interest to peace in Central America.

In our request to the UN Security Council, we asked for broad support for the Contadora Group, which is being supported by several countries of the world, including the USSR, the EEC, the Spanish Government, several Latin American countries, and some members of the Nonaligned Movement, to which Nicaragua belongs. This has prompted the world to turn its attention to the political responsibility of the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

Nicaragua is now participating in an expert-level meeting of Foreign Ministries, and we are willing to attend the foreign ministers' meeting to be held in a few weeks. However, we want to note our concern over the fact that suddenly for this Contadora Group, through a State Department announcement, when during the creation of the group, the United States was the first to try to block its early meetings and prevent its consolidation. This means that without abandoning its warmongering aggressive policy and without suspending its shipments of arms to the Somozist counterrevolutionary groups bivouacked in Honduras and Costa Rica, the U.S. government cunningly intends to get closer to the Contadora Group and give the impression of its support for the peace efforts in order to block them.

Why should the U.S. Government be interested in blocking the Contadora Group's efforts? Because thanks to the prestige and international support gained by the initiative of these four countries, the elimination of the Contadora Group or the blocking of its efforts would present us more than ever with the alternative of war and would encourage stronger offensive actions on the part of the Honduran Army, stirred by the U.S. Government's warmongering policy.

That is why our efforts will continue to be toward the consolidation of the Contadora Group as a true alternative in the search for peace. It is necessary for the Honduran Government to sit down with the Nicaraguan Government in the presence of the Contadora Group foreign ministers and discuss face to face the matters pending between the two countries in order to seriously and responsibly eliminate the risk of a direct confrontation between Honduras and Nicaragua. Such a confrontation could only be blamed on the aggressive policy of the United States.

Part of this aggressive policy has to do with the second question, concerning the presence of the Green Berets in Honduran territory and the presence of military advisers in El Salvador; all of which are creating conditions so that the U.S. military intervention may reach a stage in which the U.S. people may find themselves surprised with a real Trojan horse. While the Reagan administration insists on denying ts intentions to invade Central America with U.S. troops, gradually and unknown to the U.S. public it continues to place such troops in Central American territory. It is doing so through military advisers. First there were 100, then 200, and later it will be 300. These advisers come to train Salvadoran troops, and to build airports located just a few minutes by air from our borders.

Who can guarantee that these troops will not show up someday behind the Honduran Army, providing them with the same logistical support that the Honduran Army is now offering to the Somozist counterrevolution? If the Reagan administration should insist on this military escalation and gradually increase its involvement in Central America, it will end up unavoidably involving the U.S. people in the landing of troops in Central American territory. In fact, former U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale has already warned the Reagan administration about this. We are certain that this situation is a cause of great concern to the North American people, who are aware that such a military adventure in Central America would necessarily end up like the Vietnam adventure, which cost over 60,000 lives to the U.S. people. A military intervention in Central America by the United States could only mean casualties and dead on the part of the U.S. troops; mostly made up of youths who were strongly opposed to U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, which was unjust and immoral as a war in Central America with U.S. troops would be, unjust and immoral.

[Applause]

FSLN, CPSU EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES, IMPRESSIONS

PA242315 Managua Radio Sending in Spanish 1830 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Moscow -- The FSLN and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, CPSU, yesterday exchanged experiences regarding the organization and propaganda of the two political organizations. Commander Bayardo Arce Castano, coordinator of the FSLN'S Political Committee, was present at the work session with the CPSU organizational sector. Also present at the work session were Federico Lopez, Carlos Carrion, and Darma Lila Carrasquilla, members of the Sandinist Assembly.

The Sandinist delegation later met with CPSU Propaganda Department officials B. Stukalin and B. A. Aleksandrov. The CPSU currently has 18 million members at national level.

The Sandinist delegation was invited to visit the USSR by the Soviet communists and they are holding a series of talks to strengthen the friendship ties between the two political organizations. The Sandinist delegates have denounced the aggressive plans developed by the Reagan administration in that Central American country.

Moscow Reportage on Visit

For Moscow media reportage on the visit of a delegation of the Sandinist National Liberation Front to Moscow, including meetings with CPSU Central Committee members K. Chernenko and B. Ponomarev, see the World and Regional Issues section of the 27 June Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

RAMIREZ MERCADO BEGINS 3-DAY VISIT TO CARACAS

PA261909 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1703 GMT 26 Jun 83

[Text] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, left for Caracas at 0900 heading an official top-level delegation that will attend a meeting on Simon Bolivar's bicentennial.

Commanders of the Revolution Daniel Ortega and Tomas Borge Martinez, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and interior minister, respectively, went to see Ramirez off at Augusto Cesar Sandino international airport. Ramirez Mercado is accompanied by Education Minister Carlos Tunnerman Berheim and Finance Minister Joaquin Cuadra.

Before departing, Ramirez Mercado made a statement to reporters on the reason for his trip: [Begin recording] [Ramirez Mercado] I'll participate in a meeting on Latin American political thought as a guest of the Venezuelan Congress. However, I'll also take advantage of my visit to make several political contacts. We will meet with President Luis Herrera Campins, and presidential hopefuls Rafael Caldera [of COPEI] and Jaime Lusinchi of the Democratic Action Party. We will also appear at the University of Venezuela and are planning to meet with congressmen, and intellectuals in a very busy 3-day agenda.

On Wednesday, the last day of my visit, I will meet with all Nicaraguan ambassadors in Wouth America to discuss the Nicaraguan situation with them.

[Unidentified reporter] You said you will meet with President Herrera Campins. What will you discuss in that meeting?

[Ramirez Mercado] We will analyze bilateral matters of an economic and political nature. We will also tell President Herrera Campins and the most important presidential candiates about the Nicaraguan situation, the danger of an aggression, the counter-revolutionary attacks, and all the other topics that we want to clarify.

[Reporter] Will the finance minister be discussing any trade agreements?

[Ramirez Mercado] We intend to discuss pending economic and financial matters with Venezuela.

[Reporter] I heard you are going to appear at the university.

[Ramirez Mercado] An event of solidarity with Nicaragua will be held at the University of Caracas tomorrow night. Some 5,000 or 6,000 people are to attend it. We will speak there to impart the message of our revolution. [end recording]

REBEL GROUP URGES PASTORA TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE

PA241651 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1622 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Miami, 23 Jun (date as received) (EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), one of the two groups fighting the Sandinists, this Friday asked Eden Pastora (Commander Zero) to go on fighting.

Edgard Chamorro, member of the FDN Directorate, has told EFE that Pastora's announcement that he is temporarily withdrawing from the southern front in Nicaragua "has caused great concern among us and greatly affects us. We are asking Pastora," he said, "to go on with the guerrilla warfare or with an open war, even if he does not have sufficient resources."

Further FDN Leader Comments

PA241735 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1641 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 25 Jun (ACAN EFE) -- Edgard Chamorro Coronel, member of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force Directorate, said today in Tegucigalpa that Commander Eden Pastora's withdrawal from the anti-Sandinist struggle "is really a call for help."

According to Chamorro, "Pastora's announcement gives the impression that a call is being made to the democratic world to cooperate with him." Chamorro, former member of the board of directors of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, added that he was "surprised by Pastora's decision because he knows very well that this is the right time to fight."

Chamorro said: "Pastora is a good politician. We want him to fight; we want him to secure the aid he needs. Let the democratic governments listen to his appeal and give him the necessary aid."

The FDN Directorate is composed of Enrique Bermudez, Adolfo Calero, Indalecio Rodriguez, Lucia de Salazar, Marco Zeledon, and Chamorro. Chamorro gave no importance to Pastora's charges that the FDN wants to reinstall Somozism in Nicaragua. "That's a political tactic of Pastora's," Chamorro said. "Pastora knows perfectly well that that is not the goal of this organization. We want the social justice that Nicaraguans want, and we want it within the framework of absolute respect for human rights and liberties," the politician said.

Chamorro noted: "This is not the time for discussing these differences," because the most important activity at this moment is the struggle against the Sandinist regime governing Nicaragua. "There will be time for that in the future. Right now, this is the time for all Nicaraguans to be united and not divided. This is not the time either for party struggles. After we liberate the republic, then we can go to the polls to democratically compete for power," the leader said.

He added: "Pastora has been clear in his criticism of the FDN, and we respect his tactics because in politics it is most important to be democratic and pluralist and it must be accepted that there are different opinions on some matters," the opposition leader said.

Chamorro denied that most of the FDN members are former members of the overthrown regime of Anastasio Somoza. He estimated that only 3 percent of the FDN militants "were Somozists in the past."

The leader also denied that his commandos are responsible for the death of two U.S. newsmen last Tuesday on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border.

"We have not been operating in that zone for the past 2 weeks because our tactic is not to maintain positions," Chamorro said. He added: "Regarding the international support we receive, I must admit that we have the moral backing of President Ronald Reagan, who has called us "commandos of liberty," and of other important persons in the U.S. administration and Senate."

"However," Chamorro went on, "we have never received any direct military support from the Honduran Army, as the Sandinist claim. We only have to thank Honduras for its hospitality toward the members of our political branch. All our fighting force is in Nicaragua."

EPS DESERTERS CLAIM 600 CUBANS IN PUERTO CABEZAS

PA240540 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2217 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] San Jose, 23 Jun (ACAN-LFE) -- Three men and a woman, Sandinist People's Army [EPS] members who deserted and sought refuge in Costa Rica, have revealed information regarding weapons installed in Nicaragua and the presence of 600 Cubans in Puerto Cabezas, on the Pacific Coast.

The deserters include three officers of the Nicaraguan regular Armed Forces: Julio Cesar Castillo Loaiciga, Fernando Paramo Espinoza, and Mario Esquivel Reyes. The fourth is Mrs Flor Maria Amador Ramirez. They surrendered to the rural guard at Puente Cabalceta, 10 km from the Penas Blancas border post.

The deserters, who arrived here today in police custody, publicly revealed the location of the Sandinist weapons. They said that on the Pacific Coast, near the Nicaraguan port of Puerto Cabezas, "120-mm cannon have been installed and "four-barrel" antiaircraft weapons have been emplaced at the airport. [quotation marks as received]

OFFICIALS KIDNAPPED BY ANTI-SANDINISTS FOUND DEAD

PA241909 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] The bodies of three individuals who had been kidnapped by counterrevolutionaries have been found in the area of Telpaneca. The three bodies had been decapitated. The bodies of Gregorio Vasquez, Alfredo Bustamante, and Domingo Herrera were found by a peasant in La Paloma hill, in Ocotal. They had been decapitated, and the bodies were already decaying.

Vasquez, a promoter of adult education (?from) Los Ranchos [words indistinct] Bustamante, a local judge in Ciudad Antigua; and Herrera, a member of the Sandinist people's militia, were kidnapped a few days ago by a band of counterrevolutionaries.

The three popular leaders were buried in Ciudad Antigua, where rallies were held to repudiate these new crimes by the counterrevolution.

MEDIATION ROLE BETWEEN SYRIA, PLO POSSIBLE

LD272356 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] It was learned from diplomatic sources in Havana today that Cuba could mediate between Syria and the PLO.

RENE RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH 'ARAFAT IN CSSR

PA272044 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met in the CSSR capital with Rene Rodriguez, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and president of ICAP [Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples]. During the meeting, 'Arafat and Rodriguez held a general discussion of the Middle East situation. The foremost Palestinian leader thanked Rodriguez for Cuba's support for his people's cause; particularly for the solidarity shown by the Cuban Society of Friendship with the Palestinian People.

ARAB LEAGUE DELEGATION MEETS WITH CASTRO 22 JUN

FL240140 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of State and Ministers, yesterday, Wednesday afternoon, received an Arab League delegation made up of Ambassador Hashim al-Nahid of Syria, Ambassador 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, of the Yemen Arab Republic and the executive officer for administration, 'Ali al-Isa.

During the friendly meeting, the Arab delegation gave President Castro a message from the secretary general of the Arab League, Mr. Shadli Elie, in which recognition and gratitude were expressed to the Cuban people and to President Fidel Castro for the solidarity offered to the Palestinian cause and to the legitimate rights of that people to have an independent state.

Vice President of the Councils of State and Ministers Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Minister of Foreign Relations Isidoro Malmierca also participated in the talks for the Cuban side. In the meeting, points of view were exchanged on current principal international problems.

The delegation from the Arab League left for Panama to continue its tour of Latin American nations. During its 4 days in Cuba, it held working meetings aimed at strengthening and promoting Arab-Latin American relations.

Ambassador Hashim al-Nahid, and 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, permanent representatives to the Arab League from the Arab Republic of Syria and the Arab Republic of Yemen, respectively, as well as 'Ali al-Isa, executive official of the Arab League in Madrid, were seen off at Jose Marti International Airport by Oscar Orams, Cuban vice minister of foreign relations.

FIDEL ADDRESSES FMC; ASSESSES 'BASTION 83'

FL271125 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 June 83

[Text] The commitments of 1,882,035 Cuban women to join the Territorial Troops Militia [MTT] were presented to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, by Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the FMC [Federation of Cuban Women].

During a ceremony at the headquarters of the MINFAR [Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces], leaders of the FMC from the 14 provinces and from the special municipality of the Isle of Youth presented Fidel with albums containing the commitments of members to join that people's defensive body. Our commander in chief aldo received from Dora Carcano, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the FMC, a check for 253,632 pesos as financial support for the MIT from FMC members.

In her speech, Vilma Espin said that shortly an experimental project of women joining a women's voluntary military service would begin in four municipalities of Havana City Province.

At the ceremony, Fidel made a preliminary evaluation of the results of the strategic exercise "Bastion 83" which was recently concluded. He referred to various themes dealing with the preparations of all the people for the defense of the socialist fatherland. The maximum leader of the Cuban revolution praised the serious work carried out by party and government leaders who participated in "Bastion 83" and pointed out the effectiveness of the defense zones, which, subordinated to the municipal government organ in wartime, were created and tested during the exercise. Fidel emphasized the extraordinary role that Cuban women have played throughout our struggle and said that the Mariana (Grajales) Squad formed in the Sierra Maestra can be considered the precursor of the current mass incorporation of women into the defense effort. He congratulated the members for the work they have done.

Present at the ceremony were Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and minister of the FAR; Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo; leaders of the FMC and first and second level alternate members of the MINFAR.

CPSU, PERUVIAN COMMUNIST PARTY SEND CONDOLENCES

PA271446 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has sent a condolence message to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba for the death of Politburo Member Osvaldo Dorticos orrado, who was buried yesterday in the Armed Forces Pantheon in Havana.

The Peruvian Communist Party has also sent a message indicating that Dorticos was an example of modesty, revolutionary awareness, and the spirit of struggle. The note also stresses his contribution to the consolidation and development of the Cuban revolution and the workers' international cause.

RAMIREZ CRUZ TALKS WITH CSSR COUNTERPARTS

FL271946 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1803 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP] said in Prague, Czechoslovakia today that our country has made great strides in agriculture.

Ramirez Cruz, who headed the Cuban delegation to the World Assembly for Peace and Life and Against Nuclear War that concluded yesterday, told the press that before the revolution 70 percent of Cuban lands were in the hands of big landowners. The ANAP president pointed out that there was a radical change in the living conditions of Cuban farmers. The cooperatives were integrated into larger units and new towns with electric power available are going up. Ramirez Cruz was briefed on the results and development of the Czechoslovak agricultural cooperatives during talks held with leaders of that movement.

OROPESA MEETS WITH SAO TOME MOVEMENT LEADERS

FL272325 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo and member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee, has received a delegation from the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe [MLSTP] led by Tome Dias da Costa, member of the MLSTP Political Bureau, and (Francisco Pides), member of the Secretariat.

In the meeting which took place in a warm and fraternal atmosphere, they discussed relations between the two parties and exchanged notes on international issues, particularly those dealing with Africa, Central America, and the Caribbean. The two leaders signed a cooperation agreement between the PCC and the MLSTP for 1983-1985. Also participating in the meeting were vice chiefs and other officials of the PCC Central Committee's General Department of Foreign Relations.

BRAVO MEETS FORMER AREA OFFICIALS IN CARACAS

PA272106 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] Flavio Bravo, president of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government, has met in Caracas with former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and former Peruvian Foreign Minister Edgardo Mercado Jarrin. Flavio Bravo, head of the Cuban delegation to the World Congress on Latin American Political Thought, "Alternativa," attended a Cuban national dance group performance at the National Theater in Caracas.

Bravo and Andres Perez agreed that a solution to the current situation in El Salvador must be the result of negotiations. Both also agreed that the Salvadoran crisis is the result, not of the so-called East-West confrontation, but of the backwardness and age-old exploitation to which the people of the Central American country have been subjected. Flavio Bravo and former President Carlos Andres Perez assessed the danger represented by Ronald Reagan and by Senator Barry Goldwater's threats against Cuba and expressed concern over the U.S.-supported escalation of agression against Nicaragua.

HAVANA VIEWS UK'S NEW FALKLANDS AIRPORT

FL280130 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jun 83

[Text] The British Government today awarded contracts for over $500 million for the construction of a new military airport in the Malvinas Islands. Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine announced that the airport will be built near Fitzroy, south of the island's capital, site of much fighting between British and Argentine troops during last year's confrontation. The new airport will permit Boeing 747 aircraft to make direct flights to the Malvinas from North Africa. Currently the British high command has been maintaining a costly air bridge between Ascension Island and the Malvinas with Hercules aircraft, which have to be refueled several times while airborne.

Some military specialists believe that with the acquisition of the Boeing 747, under the argument of defending the Malvinas archipelago, Great Britain will be able to create an additional corps for the so-called Rapid Deployment Forces, sponsored by the United States.

COMMENTARIES ON SLAIN JOURNALISTS INCIDENT

'Our America'

PA261835 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jun 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Government and its puppets in Central America have not stopped at anything to make up pretexts to justify their criminal actions against the peoples. The history of our America includes dozens of examples. The Yankee imperialists ordered the blowing up of the U.S. battleship "Maine," which was anchored in the port of Havana, in order to prepare an alibi that would justify its intervention in the Cuban-Spanish war waged at the end of the last century. In 1965, the United States announced that it was invading the Dominican Republic to protect the interests of the U.S. citizens residing there. Thus, over and over again the U.S. leaders have landed their Marines in order to safeguard their spurious economic and political interests, wherever the peoples' liberation struggles have threatened to destroy them. Washington's pretexts to justify these actions are truly ridiculous.

Central American political observers are aware of a situation that might be exploited by the imperialists -- in fact, they themselves may have created this situation -- to justify a direct armed attack by U.S. and Honduran forces against Nicaragua. It is the matter of the death of two U.S. journalists last Tuesday in Honduran territory, near the Nicaraguan border. According to the regime in Tegucigalpa, journalists Richard Cross and Dial Torgersen were killed by antitank grenades of the Sandinist People's Army. Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has described the Honduran accusation as an example of unprecedented cynicism, and he has pointed to the contradictions in the official reports on the case. D'Escoto regretted the deaths of Cross and Torgersen, whose positions in favor of the Sandinist revolution, he noted, were known to both the former Somozist guardsmen and the CIA agents in Honduras, to whom objective journalists are dangerous communists.

Commenting on the contradictions in the official Honduran communiques, he said that one of them states that the journalists were killed by antitank rounds fired 3.5 km from the border. He said it is illogical to assume that that type of ammunition can have such a range. D'Escoto added that the road where the incident presumable took place is under the permanent control of the Honduran Army and the former Somozist Guardsmen, and that it is hard to understand why these journalists would be authorized to move about in such a hot area without escorts and military protection. The Nicaraguan foreign minister stressed that the official Honduran contradictions suggest that the U.S. journalists fell into a trap, and he urged the Honduran Government to answer these questions and to make public the testimonies of the first persons who located the bodies.

As for a possible explanation, D'Escoto said that Honduras may be looking for a pretext to launch larger-scale attacks against Nicaragua, a situation that the United States would exploit to gain support for its immoral warmongering Central American policy among the U.S. public. There is no doubt that the Yankee imperialists and their Honduran allies are preparing to step up their warmongering escalation against the Sandinist revolution. The Honduran troops have been gradually but increasingly involving themselves in the counterrevolutionary groups' punitive actions against Nicaragua. Complete Honduran Army units are now entering Nicaraguan territory with the anti-Sandinist forces. But neither the anti-Sandinists nor the Honduran soldiers have been able to seize permanently a part of Nicaraguan territory to establish a beachhead that would lead to a larger-scale aggression. This is the reason for the haste with which the United States is trying to implement new variations of its interventionist plan for the area.

U.S. 'Provocations'

FL241904 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Jun 83

[Commentary by Oscar Ferrer and Luis M. Arce during the Revista de la Mana Program -- Live]

[Excerpts] [Ferrer] Good morning viewers. Good morning Arce. Nicaragua undisputedly continues to be of interest to international public opinion. Two recent events have occurred in relation to this Central American country. The first of these is the provocative presence in the waters of the Gulf of Fonseca -- under Nicaragua's jurisdictation -- of a war frigate of the U.S. Navy, the USSFFG 26 Gallery, detected by the Sandinist Air Force about 20 miles southwest of Punta Cosiguina in the extreme northwest of Nicaragua.

At the same time, the Honduran regime yesterday fabricated the fallacy that two U.S. journalists had been found dead as a consequence -- according to the Honduran regime -- of suspected mortar fire by Nicaragua against Honduran territory. The Tegucigalpa press and the Western agencies -- the imperialist agencies -- are now mounting a campaign to broadcast it as reality and not as a lie -- as if it were definite. They have blown up that situation, which shows that they are going to continue to use it to intensify the present attack against Nicaragua.

These events undisputedly show that there is an escalation in the provocations against Nicaragua and that especially this problem of the two U.S. journalists can be used by the United States for a new provocation or a new action against Nicaragua.

[Arce] I think you are right. The business about the presence of a U.S. war ship in the Gulf of Fonseca is not something new. Traditionally, every time the United States exerts pressure on the Government of Nicaragua, there has been a U.S. ship present near the Nicaraguan coasts, which is easy enough for the United States to do because Nicaragua has two quite long coastlines along which the U.S. Navy can move freely.

[Ferrer] It is necessary to point out that the new provocations of Nicaragua by the United States occurred just a few hours after an aggressive declaration by U.S. President Ronald Reagan. In a speech he gave in Jackson, Mississippi, Reagan ratified the policy of intervention, the policy of aggression against Nicaragua and against Central America in general. He alleged that he was determined to prevent a supposed Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan axis from gaining power in this region. This is an argument that Reagan is using more and more often.

In the case of the two dead U.S. journalists, it seems that there are several contradictions to point out.

[Arce] Yes, in the first place, this is really a dangerous time for Nicaragua, evidence of which is a maneuver that they are developing about the two dead journalists. As you say there are contradictions -- those incongruities in the formulation of the arguments that the Honduran Government has presented to make its charges against the Nicaraguan Government. In the first place, is the location where the deaths supposedly occurred. On a stretch of highway that goes from a place called Trojes to Cifuentes, the deaths, or the supposed deaths, occurred at an intermediate point called Quebrada Vejia. It is an area that is really inaccessable to journalists because this zone is . . . [changes thought] there is a large concentration of counter-revolutionary encampments and therefore the Government of the United States and the Government of Honduras would not want any journalist to visit there because of what the United States calls secret aid to the Somozist bands and the Honduran Government is concentrated there. The CIA agents are there, the U.S. miliary advisers are there and Honduran officers are there. Thus, it is impossible that a journalist would be given access to that place.

In the second place, is the concrete fact of the journalists themselves. They were not just two ordinary journalists who died. They had been to Nicaragua on several occasions. They had publicly expressed their sympathy for the Nicaraguan revolution, and they had even collaborated with the Nicaraguan Ministry of Culture. So they were journalists who were not necessarily loyal to the U.S. establishment [word in English] or to the Government of Honduras.

[Words indistinct] The bizarre claim that two journalist died there even though no battle took place in that area.

The fourth question has to do with the weapon used. The Honduran Government claimed that an antitank weapon had been used to blast the journalists' vehicle. It noted, however, that the attack had taken place 3 and 1/2 km from the border. Since one can assume that the antitank weapons should have been between 1 and 1/2 and 2 km inside Nicaragua, the weapon must be placed at 5 km away from its target. Ronald Reagan himself, with his usual sharpness, said that it was apparent that the vehicle in question was loaded with civilians. Thus it is assumed that it was either a light jeep or car which was moving at a high speed. Yet it is claimed that this vehicle was blasted by an antitank weapon -- which is designed for short range targets -- located 5 km away.

The next question has to do with the witness, an alleged Honduran peasant who despite lacking military know-how contended that the vehicle was blasted by an antitank weapon fired from Nicaraguan territory. Thus one cannot give credence to this testimony.

Finally, there is the problem of lack of protection for these journalists. It is assumed that if one goes to a dangerous area, and I was there recently, one must have a minimum of protection. In this case, only two journalists and their driver died. No military men were with them and this is impossible to believe. Thus this leads us to the following conclusions: First, the victims were either taken to that after having been murdered some place else, or they were simply ambushed or walked into a trap and were murdered there by the Hondurans themselves. I believe in this case, one must speak of murder. Our final overall conclusion is that the immediate consequence of this murder will be a dangerous escalation of the U.S. Honduran aggression against Nicaragua.

This is why it is very important to reveal the plot behind the murder of the two U.S. journalists in Honduran territory.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO ANGOLA APPOINTED -- The Council of State has appointed Comrade Rodolfo Fuentes Ferro ambassador to Angola. Comrade Fuentes Ferro is alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and deputy to the National Assembly of the People's Government. [Summary] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 27 Jun 83 FL]

PENA GOMEZ VOICES CONCERN OVER C.A. SITUATION

FL241215 Santo Domingo Radio Earth in English 0330 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic -- One of the five vice Latin American presidents of Socialist International, the Dominican Republic's Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, who at the same time is the secretary general of the governing party, PRD [Dominican Revolutionary Party], stated that the Central American crisis is the greatest threat to world peace today.

Dr Pena Gomez spoke on a national network broadcast of his party's political program in which he also warned that eruption of the civil war in El Salvador has started to affect Nicaragua, and could turn into a conflagration of underdetermined proportions involving all of Central America. We, the real democrats of Latin America, are very concerned over this situation, which threatens the democracies throughout the continent. We urge all parties to give their support to the Contadora Group, which are doing their utmost to find a peaceful solution, said the Dominican political leader.

PRESIDENT ON CRIME WAVE; RECEIVES ENVOYS

FL251340 Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 0450 GMT 25 Jun 83

[Excerpt] The president of the republic, Dr Salvador Jorge Blanco, asserted yesterday that a very particular type of crime has hit the country in which well-armed men are resorting to violence for economic gain.

The chief of state said that the crime wave manifests itself in both the countryside and the city, as demonstrated by the incident where the robbery of family in a Monte Plata farm area left several dead and wounded. The aggressiveness of the criminals has placed the armed forces, the national police, and all the authorities on a true defensive posture, the president said.

The president spoke briefly with reporters after receiving the credentials of the new ambassadors from Trinidad and Tobago and Thailand during separate protocol ceremonies at the National Palace. The first to present his credentials was the ambassador from Thailand, Wutthi Chuchom, at 0900. Thirty minutes later, the ambassador from Trinidad and Tobago, Mr Victor McIntyre, presented his credentials.

GRENADA

FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS DROP BY 4.9 PERCENT

FL241704 Bridgetown CANA in English 1622 GMT 24 Jun 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, June 24, CANA -- Grenada's foreign exchange earnings through domestic exports last year totalled 47.8 million East Caribbean dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cents U.S.), a nearly five per cent drop over the previous year, according to provisional figures from the government's Central Statistical Office (CSO). The 4.0 per cent decline from the 1981 figure of 50.2 million dollars was due mainly to falling exports in the vital cocoa and banana industries.

The CSO said cocoa exports were down by 30.9 per cent to 12.5 million dollars from the 1981 figure of 18.1 million dollars, while bananas fell by 8.7 percent to 9.1 million dollars from 10 million dollars the previous year. However, the government office said nutmegs made a very small gain, rising by just over 1,000 dollars or 0.01 per cent from the 1981 figure of 8,150,453 dollars.

The CSO said that non-traditional exports performed well. These included flour and garments, with exports last year rising by 28.4 per cent from the previous year's figure of 14 million dollars to 18 million dollars. Last year, Grenada imported 151.2 million dollars worth of goods, an increase of 3.1 per cent over the 1981 figure of 146.7 million.

Other CSO figures showed that tourist arrivals were down last year by 1.1 per cent to 24,864 from the 1981 figure of 25,145. This was the smallest drop recorded since 1979 when there were 32,101 visitors.

Private remittances and other private transfers through the banks and post office were up in 1982 by 35.5 per cent from the 1981 figure. Government revenue, CSO said, also showed an increase last year, rising by 15 per cent.

HAVANA ON HEALTH DRIVE IN SAINT GEORGES

PA271806 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jun 83

[Text] The first scientific-medical drive between Grenada and Cuba was held in Saint Georges with the discussion of some 30 works by health experts from both countries. The topics discussed reflected the experiences of physicians and dentists from Cuba and other countries who are cooperating in Grenada's health sector, and also the results of the local programs presented by the Grenadian specialists.

Grenadian Health Minister Christopher de Riggs expressed his appreciation for the meeting and praised the Cuban team for helping stage the drive.

REID ON TALKS WITH IMF, DISPUTE WITH VENEZUELA

FL271419 Bridgetown CANA in English 0927 GMT 26 Jun 83

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 26, CANA -- The Guyana Government will continue to have serious dialogue with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a possible assistance package but proposals which this country will put to the Fund will be based on the economic realities and growth potential of the country, Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid said.

"Our government could not accept the recent proposals from the IMF in the name of genuine genuine development and stability of the country," he told a rally.

He said the conditions recommended by the Fund during negotiations here earlier this year were harsh and "would have affected Guyanese workers in a severe manner."

Dr. Reid said these conditions called for a devaluation of the dollar, a freeze on wages, increased costs for some consumer items and the raising of the cost of water and electricity rates.

Dr. Reid also referrred to the territorial dispute with Venezuela. He said: "Guyana's intention is to continue strict adherence to the Geneva Agreement which governs the search for a peaceful settlement."

He said the choice of a means of settlement had been referred to the United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. "It is hoped that the process to be initiated by the secretary general would lead to a speedy solution of the controversy, "he said.

Venezuela claims two-thirds of this former British colony under a long-standing territorial dispute.

POLICE REPORT SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS DURING STRIKE

FL272256 Bridgetown CANA in English 2038 GMT 27 Jun 83

[By Edwin Ali]

[Excerpts] Georgetown, Guyana, June 27, CANA -- The police have reported here several recent attempts at sabotage in the bauxite industry, scene of a three week-old strike.

Meanwhile, the state-controlled Guyana Mining Enterprise (Cuymine), which runs the vital bauxite-alumina sector, today reported that workers were returning to their jobs.

More than two thirds of the workers in the industry have been on strike demanding that Guymine reverses a decision to introduce a three-day work week instead of the traditional five-day week. The company said the measure is aimed at cutting costs in the financially-troubled industry.

The police said the most recent incident of sabotage was a deliberate attempt last Saturday to derail a locomotive shuttling are from the mines into the bauxite plant at Linden. The police also said there have been increased threats and acts of intimidation against workers who are still on the job.